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**ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer  
of Health**

AND THE

**Sanitary Inspector**

FOR THE

**Year 1968**





HEALTH AND WELFARE DEPARTMENT,  
TOWN HOUSE,

KIRKCALDY.

*October, 1969.*

*To the* PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS  
OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report on the health of  
the Burgh for the year 1968.

FREDERICK S. MELVILLE

*Medical Officer of Health*

## INTRODUCTION

This annual report has been compiled in accordance with the advice and wish of the Scottish Home and Health Department (Health and Welfare Services Circular No. 33/1968).

The routine work of the department has gone on during the year quietly and effectively and there were no major setbacks or changes in this routine, but change has been very much in the air.

The document, 'Administrative Re-organisation of the Scottish Health Services' (The Scottish Green Paper) and its counterpart in England and Wales; the passing of the Social Work Act; the shadow of the enquiries of the Royal Commission on Local Government, and all the subsequent articles and discussions on these and other reports have left a kaleidoscopic picture of planning and organisation gone mad.

The fantastic clumsiness with which fluoridation has been introduced to the public, with the subsequent and inevitable antagonism engendered, should be a warning to those who lead that 'lead' is the operative word, not direct or bulldoze, and that continuous evolution is much more effective in the long run than revolution, especially when resources are limited and skilled personnel scarce.

It is extremely difficult to show enthusiasm for advances when there is a cloud of uncertainty above one's head and I have no hesitation in admitting that more innovations might well have been suggested if this welter of planning for change had not been in the air.

During the year discussions were held with the Regional Hospital Board, local General Practitioners and members of the Local Executive Committee on the establishment of a large Health Centre which it is hoped will materialise within two or three years beside the hospital complex at Victoria Hospital. This Centre should foster much closer co-operation and collaboration between the three branches of the Health Service which co-operation and collaboration I venture to suggest is already good. This Centre should improve the service to the individual and the community with a saving of valuable and scarce professional time.

A decision was taken to employ more State Enrolled Nurses in the District Nursing Service and, at the same time, to rationalise the districts so that the Burgh is now divided into three with four nurses in each area, three State Registered and one State Enrolled.

Attachment of the District Nurses to individual practices was considered but at this moment of time in view of the facts that most practices embrace the whole burgh, that a considerable number of the clients of the District Nurses require attention every day and not when the nurse could arrange to be in that street or area, that only a minority

of the practices have premises where the nurse could do some of her work, and that it is not only a question of cost in travelling allowances but in time of travelling that have to be thought of, the area system was preferable. When the Health Centre opens and most of the General Practitioners and all the nursing staff are based there perhaps then the question of attachment of district nurses can be reconsidered.

The Health Committee agreed to the use of Hayfield Clinic on two days a week for a Geriatric Day Hospital but to date the Hospital Authorities have not been able to implement this because of difficulties of staffing and finance.

No startling outbreaks of infectious disease have occurred but there was a rather disturbing number of cases of dysentery notified. With the steady improvement of environmental conditions this disease should be kept in check and our efforts in education of everyone in hygiene, and particularly food hygiene, must be pressed forward.

Infective Hepatitis was the only other disease which increased during the year and the above remarks apply equally to the disease which is also spread where personal hygiene is poor.

Immunisation against measles started during the year when selected groups under seven years of age were offered this. It will be interesting to see what effect this has on the epidemic phases of this disease.

I would like to thank all the staff of the Health and Welfare Department for their work during the year and particularly to thank Miss Milne for the work she has done in the compilation of this report in addition to all her other duties.

Finally, my thanks to the Council for the great encouragement and help I have had from them and particularly the members of the Health and Welfare Committee.



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# STAFF

DESIGNATION	OFFICER	QUALIFICATION
Medical Officer of Health, Chief Welfare Officer, and School Medical Officer	Frederick S. Melville	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	James A. Petrie, M.C.	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	Agnes C. D. Penman	M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.
Dental Officers	Rachel I. Mears Mrs. T. Hamill (Appointed 16/9/68) Mrs. A. Wright (Part-time)	L.D.S. L.D.S. L.D.S.
Superintendent of Nurses	Rachel R. Cullen	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.
Health Visitors	Mrs. I. B. Bannerman (Retired 15/3/68) Miss G. Barnes (Retired 26/7/68) Miss M. Cairns Miss D. M. Cairns Miss Anne Campbell Mrs. M. S. Campbell Mrs. I. J. Hale Mrs. A. Harper Mrs. M. L. Millsap Miss B. Scott  Mrs. J. Snodgrass (Appointed 30/9/68) Miss J. Stewart Miss B. Williamson	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V., N.N.E.B. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., S.R.M.N., H.V. S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V. R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N., H.V.
Medico-Social Worker	Agnes C. Bowman (Seconded April, 1968)	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
District Nurses	Mrs. M. F. F. Coumbis Mrs. A. M. Givens (Appointed 1/5/68) Mrs. J. Freeman (Resigned 15/7/68) Mrs. I. Gray (Resigned 15/8/68) Miss J. Leitch (Retired 15/10/68) Mrs. M. S. McGrath Mrs. G. MacSween (Appointed 15/7/68) Miss Isabella Peggie Mrs. F. M. Robertson Mrs. D. Turnbull Mrs. M. L. Welsh Mrs. A. Hutt (part-time) (Resigned 2/12/68)	R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N. R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N. R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N. R.G.N. R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N., S.C.M.
State Enrolled Nurses	Mrs. E. McGrory Mrs. W. G. Fairful (Appointed 2/12/68) Mrs. J. McAlinden (Appointed 2/12/68) Mrs. D. Ritchie (Appointed 2/12/68)	S.E.N. S.E.N. S.E.N. S.E.N.



# STAFF (continued)

DESIGNATION	OFFICER	QUALIFICATION
District Nurse/Midwife	Miss E. T. Conway (Resigned 31/3/68)	R.G.N., S.C.M.
Municipal Midwives	Miss J. McGown Miss R. C. Taylor Miss Patricia Walker Mrs. C. Wood (Resigned Sept., 1968) (Sponsored for H.V. Course)	R.G.N., S.C.M., Q.N. S.C.M. R.G.N., S.C.M. R.G.N., S.C.M.
Clinic Nurse	Mrs. J. King Mrs. C. L. McMillan (Appointed Sept., 1968)	R.G.N. R.G.N., S.C.M., S.R.M.N.
Student Health Visitors	Miss M. H. Robertson  Mrs. C. Wood	R.F.N., R.G.N., S.C.M., O.H. R.G.N., S.C.M.
Physiotherapist	Mrs. Smith (part-time) (Appointed 20/5/68) Mrs. S. Sugars (Temp. part-time) (Resigned 27/8/68)	M.C.S.P.
Chiropodist	Mr. Richard Forbes	M.Ch.S., S.R.Ch.
Welfare and Mental Health Officers	William Eadie Robert T. Cuthbert	P.L.D., A.I.S.W. P.L.D., A.I.S.W.
Matron (Abden Home)	Miss J. F. MacVicar	R.G.N., S.R.M.N.
Matron (Denend Home)	Miss H. L. S. Brickman	R.G.N., S.C.M., H.V.
Visiting Medical Practitioner (Abden Home)	Robert R. W. Mirrey	M.B., Ch.B.
Consultant Oculist	J. Burns-Brown	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S.
Sanitary Inspector	John H. Irvine	M.R.S.H., M.Inst.P.C.
Deputy Sanitary Inspector	Robert Easson	
Assistant Sanitary Inspectors	Joseph Oates Michael Wallace James T. Good Allan R. McPhee (Appointed 14/10/68)	A.R.S.H.
Apprentice Sanitary Inspectors	Brian Donnet Douglas J. Neilson Andrew Robertson (Appointed 30/9/68) William Dewar (Resigned 29/7/68)	
Non-Technical Assistant	William Proudfoot (Appointed 16/7/68)	
Assistant Cleansing Inspector	Angus C. Brown	

## CLINICS

Tuberculosis and V.D. Dispensaries	.. .. .	Victoria Hospital
Child Welfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Eye; U.V.R.; Relaxation Clinics; Immunisation Clinic	.. .. .	Loughborough Road Glebe Park
Child Welfare; Dental; Ear, Nose and Throat; Immunisation Clinic	..	
Child Welfare; Ante-Natal; Dental; Relaxation Clinic; Diagnostic Clinic; Immunisation Clinic; Hearing Clinic	.. .. .	Fair Isle Road
Child Welfare; Immunisation Clinic	.. .. .	Alison Street
Child Welfare; Child Psychiatry; Orthoptics	.. .. .	Hayfield Road

## VITAL STATISTICS

# COMPARATIVE ANNUAL NUMBERS AND RATES OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Year	Popu- lation	Births		Infant Deaths		Maternal Deaths			Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1,000 Living
		No.	Rate per 1,000 Living	No.	Infant Mort ality	Puer- peral Fever	Other	Rate per 1,000 Births		
1930	43,796	789	18.0	47	60	1	5	7.6	537	12.3
1	43,904	757	17.2	42	55	4	5	11.9	545	12.4
2	44,170	743	16.8	53	71	2	7	12.1	576	13.0
3	44,622	729	16.3	65	89	3	2	6.9	579	13.0
4	44,565	728	16.3	44	60	1	5	8.2	587	13.2
5	44,622	704	15.8	45	64	1	1	3.0	540	12.1
6	44,740	686	15.3	53	77	2	1	4.4	551	12.5
7	44,947	715	15.9	48	67	2	6	11.2	553	12.3
8	45,421	764	16.8	41	54	1	5	7.9	552	12.2
9	46,579	758	16.3	51	67	—	3	4.0	590	12.7
1940	44,660	682	14.5	44	65	—	6	8.8	632	14.2
1	44,100	722	15.1	40	55	—	5	6.9	542	12.3
2	43,300	736	15.4	48	65	—	7	9.5	551	12.7
3	42,367	767	16.1	35	46	—	2	2.6	564	13.3
4	42,461	823	17.1	29	35	—	3	3.6	551	13.0
5	42,929	697	14.5	28	40	—	3	4.3	530	12.3
6	45,656	964	20.1	44	46	—	—	—	578	12.7
7	47,897	1,102	23.0	58	53	—	4	3.6	631	13.2
8	48,671	980	20.1	33	34	—	3	3.0	573	11.8
9	49,000	887	18.1	47	53	—	1	1.1	592	12.1
1950	49,425	896	18.1	37	41	—	2	1.1	672	13.6
1	49,230	923	18.7	33	36	—	—	—	645	13.1
2	49,424	810	16.4	31	38	—	1	1.2	588	11.9
3	50,119	840	16.8	24	29	—	—	—	535	10.7
4	50,520	938	18.6	24	26	—	2	2.13	624	12.4
5	51,093	856	16.8	27	32	—	1	1.2	553	10.8
6	51,475	901	17.5	23	26	—	—	—	551	10.7
7	51,825	946	18.3	22	23	—	—	—	564	10.9
8	52,061	1,017	19.5	20	20	—	1	0.98	524	10.1
9	52,407	958	18.3	15	16	—	—	—	568	10.8
1960	52,515	874	16.6	14	16	—	—	—	520	9.9
1	52,644	981	18.6	21	21	—	—	—	597	11.3
2	52,697	967	18.4	24	25	—	—	—	551	10.5
3	52,638	942	17.9	15	16	—	—	—	612	11.6
4	51,996	848	16.3	19	22	—	—	—	609	11.7
5	51,917	923	17.8	19	21	—	—	—	584	11.2
6	51,886	875	16.9	15	17	—	—	—	601	11.6
7	52,102	917	17.6	19	21	—	—	—	559	10.7
8	52,125	913	17.5	17	18	—	1	1.0	551	10.6

# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's mid-year estimate 1968)	..	..	52,125		
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Kirkcaldy</i>	<i>Scotland</i>
Live Births .. .. .	462	451	913		
Birth Rate .. .. .	—	—	—	17.5	18.3
(Births per 1,000 population) ..					
Illegitimate Births .. .. .	38	35	73		
Percentage illegitimate per 100 live births .. .. .	—	—	—	8.0	7.4
Deaths of Infants under one year	12	5	17		
Infant Mortality Rate .. .. .	—	—	—	18	21
(Deaths per 1,000 live births)					
Number of Still-births .. .. .	7	5	12		
Still-birth Rate .. .. .	—	—	—	13	15
(Still-births per 1,000 live and still-births)					
Neonatal Deaths .. .. .	10	4	14		
(Infants dying under one month)					
Neonatal Death Rate .. .. .	—	—	—	15	13.3
(Infants dying under one month per 1,000 live births)					
Perinatal Deaths .. .. .	14	8	22		
(Still-births and those dying in first week of life)					
Perinatal Death Rate .. .. .	—	—	—	23.7	25.9
(Still-births and those dying in first week per 1,000 live and still-births)					
Marriages .. .. .			532		
Marriage Rate .. .. .				10.2	8.4
Deaths (all ages) .. .. .	294	257	551		
Death Rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	10.6	12.2
Maternal Deaths .. .. .	—	1	1		
Maternal Death Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births ..				1.0	0.14
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms	62	53	115		
Percentage of total deaths ..	—	—	—	20.9	19.6
Deaths from Tuberculosis (pulmonary and non-pulmonary)	3	—	3		
Death Rate Tuberculosis per 1,000 population .. .. .	—	—	—	0.06	0.05
Deaths from accidents in the home	2	2	4		
Death Rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	0.08	0.017
Deaths from Road Accidents ..	5	1	6		
Death Rate per 1,000 population	—	—	—	0.12	0.01
Area of Burgh .. .. .	..	..	..	5,738 acres	
Number of inhabited houses in Burgh (as at 16/5/68) ..				17,503	
Rateable Value (as at 16/5/68) .. .. .				£1,674,762	
Total cost of services administered by Health Committee (Financial Year 1968-69)	Expenditure .. ..			£129,900	
	Income .. ..			25,956	
	Net Cost .. ..			103,944	
Total cost of services administered by Welfare Committee (Financial Year 1968-69)	Expenditure .. ..			80,018	
	Income .. ..			20,614	
	Net Cost .. ..			59,404	

## **POPULATION**

There was an increase in the estimated population of 23 over that of the previous year. The statistical data in this report are based on the Registrar-General's mid-year estimate for 1968 of 52,125.

## **AREA**

The Burgh area remains at 5,738 acres, and the number of inhabited houses has decreased from 17,892 to 17,503.

## **BIRTHS**

Live births referable to the Burgh amounted to 913 representing a rate of 17.5 per thousand of the population compared to 917 and a rate of 17.6 in 1967, and a rate of 18.3 for Scotland during 1968.

There were 73 illegitimate births registered - a decrease of 12 over last year; this is 8.0% of the total live births as opposed to 9.3% in 1967.

## **DEATHS**

Deaths in the Burgh amounted to 551 giving a rate of 10.6 per thousand of the population as compared to 10.7 for the previous year and to the national rate of 12.2.

The principal causes of death in order were arterio-sclerotic heart disease including coronary disease, vascular lesions affecting the central nervous system, cancer and chest disease; all the remainder of the principal causes playing a very small part.

Cancer of the Respiratory System, trachea, bronchus and lung, accounted for 26 out of a total of 62 male deaths from all causes of cancer compared to 22 out of 52 last year. Twelve out of this 26 were persons under 65 years.

Fatal accidents in the home totalled 4 (2 male: 2 female) and on the roads 6 (5 male: 1 female), a welcome decrease of 7 and 4 respectively, from 1967.



# CAUSES OF DEATH Arranged according to cause, sex and age

CAUSE OF DEATH	MALES							FEMALES						
	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total	0-	1-	15-	25-	45-	65+	Total
Tuberculosis of respiratory system						2	2							
Other tuberculosis, including late effects						1	1							
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1			1			2	1					1	2
Malignant neoplasms—Total		1		1	20	40	62				3	20	30	53
Malignant neoplasm of stomach					1	9	10						2	2
Malignant neoplasm of trachea, bronchus and lung					12	14	26					2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm of breast											2	7	5	14
Malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri												2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm of lymphatic and haematopoietic tissue					1	1	2					1	4	5
Other malignant neoplasms		1		1	6	16	24				1	8	17	26
Benign and unspecified neoplasms												1		1
Diabetes mellitus						3	3						1	1
Anaemias													1	1
Other general diseases					1		1							
Other diseases of nervous system		1			3	1	5				1	1		2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease					1	1	2			1	2	1	2	6
Hypertensive disease						6	6						2	2
Ischaemic heart disease				1	37	61	99					5	53	58
Other forms of heart disease					1	5	6						16	16
Cerebrovascular disease					9	26	35					5	56	61
Other circulatory diseases					3	9	12				1	1	16	18
Influenza						3	3						1	1
Pneumonia	1	1			1	7	10	1			1		6	8
Bronchitis, emphysema and asthma					4	13	17					1	2	3
Other respiratory diseases					1	1	2						2	2
Peptic Ulcer						2	2						1	1
Intestinal obstruction and hernia													2	2
Cirrhosis of liver					1	1	2							
Other digestive diseases													6	6
Nephritis and nephrosis													1	1
Hyperplasia of prostate						1	1							
Infections of kidney													1	1
Other diseases of genito-urinary system						1	1							
Other complications of pregnancy, child-birth and the puerperium											1			1
Diseases of skin, musculoskeletal system, etc.					2	1	3							
Congenital anomalies of nervous system	1						1							
Congenital Anomalies of circulatory system					1		1							
Other congenital anomalies	1						1							
Birth injury, difficult labour and other anoxic and hypoxic conditions	1						1	1						1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	4						4	1						1
Senility without mention of psychosis													1	1
Ill-defined and unknown causes												1		1
Motor vehicle accidents		2		1	1	1	5		1					1
Accidents in the home					1	1	2						2	2
Other violence	1						1						1	1
Suicide and self-inflicted injury						1	1				1	1		2
TOTALS	10	5	—	4	87	188	294	4	1	1	10	37	204	257

## A. LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FUNCTIONS

### Statistics

Births registered in Burgh during the year were as follows:

Live Births	Still-Births
913	12

Births delivered in Burgh during the year were as follows:

	Live Births	Still-Births
Domiciliary	53	1
Forth Park		
Maternity Hospital	869	11

In addition, 21 live births of Kirkcaldy babies born outwith Burgh were transferred back, the place of birth being:

Simpson Memorial Pavilion, Edinburgh ..	..	10
Elsie Inglis Maternity Hospital, Edinburgh ..	..	1
Western General Hospital, Edinburgh ..	..	3
Craigtoun Maternity Hospital ..	..	3
Netherlee .. ..	..	1
Others - no direct notification ..	..	3
		<hr/> 21 <hr/>

One maternal death occurred during the year. This is the first maternal death in the Burgh for ten years.

Twelve still-births were notified, giving a rate of 13 per 1,000 total births.

Seventeen infants under one year of age died giving an infant mortality rate of 18 per 1,000 live births compared to 19 deaths in 1967 with an infant mortality rate of 21. The national infant mortality rate was 21.

Fourteen of these infants died under one month, giving a neonatal mortality rate of 15 compared to 12 deaths and a rate of 13 in 1967.

Ten of these died under one week and this number combined with the 12 still-births, gives a total of 22 peri-natal deaths and peri-natal mortality rate of 23.7. This is perhaps a more sensitive and a truer index of the maternity services than any of the others and this rate compares very favourably with the national peri-natal mortality rate of 25.9 per 1,000 live and still-births, although not so low as the rate for 1967, namely 21.6.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY STATISTICS

### Number Of Deaths

	M.	F.
Under 1 week .. .. .	7	3
1 to 2 weeks .. .. .	2	1
2 to 3 weeks .. .. .	1	—
3 to 4 weeks .. .. .	—	—
4 weeks to 3 months .. .. .	1	1
3 months to 6 months .. .. .	1	—
6 months to 9 months .. .. .	—	—
9 months to 12 months .. .. .	—	—
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>

### Certified Cause of Death

	M.	F.
Prematurity .. .. .	4	—
Intra-cranial Haemorrhage - Prematurity .. .. .	1	—
Atelectasis of right lung - Prematurity .. .. .	1	—
Cerebral Haemorrhage - Prematurity .. .. .	1	—
Septicaemia - Prematurity .. .. .	1	—
Pneumonia - Prematurity .. .. .	1	—
Pneumonia - cot death .. .. .	—	1
Intra-natal Anoxia .. .. .	—	1
Cerebral Infarction - Septicaemia .. .. .	—	1
Vesico-intestinal failure, Meningocele, Marasmus .. .. .	1	—
Congenital Heart Lesion .. .. .	1	—
Neonatal Cold Injury .. .. .	—	1
Asphyxia - Inhalation of Vomit .. .. .	1	—
Smothering .. .. .	—	1
<b>TOTAL .. .. .</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>

## 1. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE (Section 22)

### Clinic Premises

There are four ad hoc clinics in the Burgh and one attached to a school. These are at Loughborough Road, Fair Isle Road, Hayfield Road, Alison Street and Glebe Park School.

- (a) ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS (whether provided at Child Welfare Centres or at other premises).

These are held at Loughborough Road and Fair Isle Clinics and staffed by a Consultant Obstetrician and nurses from the hospital services, and the Health Visitors whose duties are largely educational.

*Ante-natal*

- (i) Number of clinics at end of year in premises provided by local health authority .. .. . 2
- (ii) Total number of women who attended the clinics during the year 1,671 (1,933)
- (iii) Total number of sessions .. 196 (203)

*(b) PREPARATION CLASSES*

These classes have continued to flourish and the mothers realise the value of them.

## Numbers attending at each clinic:

Clinic	No. of Sessions	No. of Cases	Total Attendances
Loughborough Road	49 (45)	111 (121)	353 (366)
Fair Isle	43 (47)	196 (184)	553 (588)

(Figures in brackets from 1967 Annual Report)

*(c) CHILD WELFARE CLINICS (held at all the clinic premises)*

- (i) Number of clinics at end of year provided by local health authority 5
- (ii) Total number of children under five years of age who first attended at the clinics during the year and who were born in:
- |     |         |    |    |    |    |     |       |
|-----|---------|----|----|----|----|-----|-------|
| (a) | 1968    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 904 | (910) |
| (b) | 1967    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 781 | (646) |
| (c) | 1964-66 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 453 | (315) |
| (d) | 1963    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 84  | (132) |
- (iii) Total number of attendances during the year made at the clinics by children who were born in:
- |     |         |    |    |    |    |       |         |
|-----|---------|----|----|----|----|-------|---------|
| (a) | 1968    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 8,302 | (8,778) |
| (b) | 1967    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 5,645 | (5,528) |
| (c) | 1964-66 | .. | .. | .. | .. | 3,674 | (3,394) |
| (d) | 1963    | .. | .. | .. | .. | 336   | (60)    |
- (iv) Total number of sessions:
- |                  |    |    |    |     |       |
|------------------|----|----|----|-----|-------|
| Medical Officers | .. | .. | .. | 279 | (267) |
| Health Visitors  | .. | .. | .. | 302 | (300) |



(d) WELFARE FOODS - Statement of issues during 1968

				Issued during 1968	Recoveries during 1968
					£ s. d.
National Dried Milk	—Tins	..	..	812	96 16 0
Orange Juice	Bottles	..	..	18,760	1,310 14 0
Cod Liver Oil	Bottles	..	..	1,560	61 6 0
A. & D. Tablets	Packets	..	..	1,641	40 2 0

(e) DENTAL CARE FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS  
AND PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN.—August 1967 - July 1968

General Statistics	Age			Maternity	
	3 or under	4	Total Ages 0-4	Ante- Natal	Post- Natal
Routine Dental Inspection .. ..	90	72	162	2	1
With dental defects .. ..	34	51	85	2	1
Offered treatment .. ..	34	51	85	2	1
Accepting treatment .. ..	34	51	85	2	1
Treated by L.A. Dental Officers ..	34	51	85	2	1
Number made dentally fit .. ..	47	60	107	—	1
Special and emergency cases ..	58	30	88	—	—
Special made Dentally Fit .. ..	24	6	30	—	—

## 2. MIDWIFERY (Section 23)

Four full-time midwives and one midwife/district nurse were employed in the domiciliary service of the Local Authority at the beginning of the year. During the year the midwife/district nurse resigned, and one full-time midwife sponsored by the department transferred to take the Student Health Visitor's Certificate Course.

Three midwives is not a big enough establishment to support a seven day week, twenty-four hour day service, but on the other hand 53 cases for three midwives do not nearly approach a reasonable case load. However, because of the continual overbooking of Forth Park Maternity Hospital and the resultant need for very early discharge of mothers and babies to relieve the bed situation the midwives have had enough work as maternity nurses.

If the number of home confinements continues to fall the time must come when some other arrangements will have to be made about domiciliary midwifery. Either the Local Health Authority can request the Regional Hospital Board to take over this service as the agents of the Local Health Authority or the midwives will require to take on com-



bined duties. The second alternative is not at all satisfactory as a practising midwife must have practice and when her case load gets much below 50 a year she is not getting this practice.

Number of Births in the Authority's area during the year corrected for mother's residence:

	Adjusted Live Births	Adjusted Still Births	Adjusted Total Births
(a) Domiciliary ..	53 (98)	1 (—)	54 (98)
(b) Hospital ..	869 (775)	11 (8)	880 (783)
TOTAL .. ..	922 (873)	12 (8)	934 (881)

(Figures in brackets for 1967)

### 3. HEALTH VISITING (Section 24)

In addition to duties in Maternity and Child Welfare, the Health Visitor acts as school nurse, supervises the work of the Home Helps, visits the old and does a considerable amount of health education both in school and with adult groups in clinics, and to other organisations out of normal working hours.

(1) Number of home visits and cases:

	Number of cases	Number of visits
1. Expectant Mothers .. ..	360 (433)	644 (843)
2. Children born in 1968 .. ..	909 (909)	6,329 (6,856)
3. Children born in 1967 .. ..	1,094 (1,029)	4,786 (6,413)
4. Children born 1963-66 .. ..	2,142 (2,022)	7,947 (9,603)
5. School Children .. ..	208 (219)	310 (337)
6. (a) Persons aged 65 years and over ..	245 (258)	700 (943)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a gen- eral practitioner or hospital ..	*138 (190)	*303 (485)
7. (a) Mental Health: care and after-care	40 (24)	106 (56)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital ..	*23 (23)	*44 (47)
8. (a) Other hospital after-care .. ..	11 (12)	19 (14)
(b) Persons included above who were visited at the special request of a general practitioner or hospital ..	*5 (11)	*11 (11)
9. Tuberculous households .. ..	39 (37)	72 (119)
10. Other infectious diseases .. ..	32 (219)	46 (274)
11. Other .. ..	1,479 (1,096)	3,422 (4,188)
12. No access visits .. ..	1,502 (1,049)	4,505 (4,896)
TOTAL .. ..	8,061 (7,307)	28,886 (34,542)

\* included in totals (a)

(2) Attendances by Health Visitors at Local Health Authority Clinics, Hospital Units, School Health Sessions, etc.:

(i) TOTAL ATTENDANCES BY HEALTH VISITORS

(a) Local Health Authority Clinics	1,150	(1,366)
(b) Hospital Units, etc. (includes Chest Clinics 40)	240	(382)
(c) School Health Sessions (includes B.C.G. 20)	682	(789)
(d) G.P. Surgeries	353	(264)
(e) Family Planning Clinics	48	

(ii) TYPES OF CLINICS, ETC., ATTENDED

*Local Health Authority Clinics*

Child Welfare (includes 95 attendances at those sessions by Clinic Nurse).	845	(926)
(Health Education is done at all Clinics)		

Others:

Ultra Violet Ray	67	(82)
Health Education	3	
Relaxation and Mothercraft	99	(130)
Hearing	8	(35)
"Well Woman's"	61	(105)
Eye	17	(29)
Immunisation	50	(60)

(iii) *Hospital Units, etc.*

Ante-Natal	171	(194)
V.D.	22	(105)
Paediatric	7	(43)
Chest	40	(40)

*Health Clinic  
Visitors Nurse*

(iv) *School Health Sessions*

Medical Inspections	175	90	(353)
Formal Health Inspections	77	209	(380)
Immunisation	—	7	(—)
Others—Mothercraft	54	—	(59)
B.C.G.	5	15	(40)
Career's Course	34	—	(28)
Advisory	16	—	(—)

Hearing Tests – Number Tested	486	(448)
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#### 4. HOME NURSING (Section 25)

With the provision of welfare services such as Home Helps, Meals on Wheels and adaptations of homes an increasing number of chronic sick are rightly being looked after at home but this not only is changing to some extent the character of the district nurse's work but also making it more arduous and demanding with more daily visits required as opposed to visits once or twice per week.

	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Number of Visits</i>
1. Total number of persons nursed during the Year .. ..	698 (857)	27,084 (27,126)
2. Number aged under 5 at first visit in 1968 .. ..	9 (2)	81 (49)
3. Number aged 65 or over at first visit in 1968 .. ..	391 (379)	2,622 (2,476)

(Numbers in brackets from 1967 Annual Report)

#### 5. VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Section 26)

##### Smallpox

Six hundred and ninety-seven primary vaccinations were performed amongst child population. This was 41 more than in 1967 and 135 more than 1966 and is fairly encouraging.

The average number of babies born each year over the previous five years has been 895 so that the number of vaccinations completed in each year, if 100% consented, should be 895. As can be seen for the year 1968, 697 vaccinations were completed which is 78% of this average. In 1967 this percentage was 73 so that there has again been a marked improvement in the vaccinal state of young children.

##### Diphtheria Immunisation

Three thousand, five hundred and nineteen children born since 1st January 1964, have had completed immunisation against Diphtheria out of a total of 4,476 born during these years. This, allowing for those born in the last six months of 1968, is more than 80% which seems very satisfactory as there are known to be others who have been immunised but not notified as such to the Local Health Authority.

##### Whooping Cough

As more than 90% of those immunised against Diphtheria have in fact had the triple antigen of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus, the immunisation rate against Whooping Cough is also satisfactory.

##### Tetanus

Tetanus immunisation is included now with Diphtheria, or Diphtheria and Whooping Cough so that there are very few young children who have not been satisfactorily immunised against Tetanus and who

therefore only need in face of risk to Tetanus from injury a booster. There is, however, some uncertainty whether all the older age group patients who attend Hospital for treatment for accident and injury and who at that time get the first of the three necessary inoculations ever complete the course. These persons may be at risk or have a false sense of security and I would like to see a system whereby *all* Tetanus Toxoid inoculations are notified to the Local Health Authority.

### **Poliomyelitis**

The response to immunisation against Poliomyelitis continues to be very good and at least 90% of children over the age of one year are now immunised against this disease.

### **Measles**

Measles vaccine became available in May of 1968 and was offered to children between one and seven years with particular emphasis to those in school and nurseries and at risk because of illness which could be complicated severely by the onset of measles. During the year some 1,437 were known to have been so immunised, 1,054 at Local Authority Clinics and sessions in school, and 383 by the General Practitioners.

### **B.C.G. Vaccination**

Exact figures of those consenting to B.C.G. vaccinations are not available.

All pupils at the 13 year old medical examinations are checked however to see if they have had the Tuberculin Test and/or B.C.G. vaccination and very few cases are found where the test has not been applied.

These cases are usually incomers to the area or pupils who have been absent when consent cards were issued. Any such cases found are asked to get a consent card signed for the next campaign.

Rectors, headmasters and clerical staff in schools have given complete co-operation.

Number of Persons re-vaccinated against smallpox during period:

Year of Birth of Persons	Successful	No Reaction	Not Examined
1968	—	—	—
1967	—	—	—
1966	—	—	—
1965	—	—	—
1964	3	—	—
1963	3	—	—
1962	1	—	1
1961	5	1	—
1960	3	—	1
1959	2	1	—
1958	254	8	44
or earlier			
TOTALS	271	10	46



**SMALLPOX VACCINATION**  
NUMBERS RECEIVING SMALLPOX VACCINATION  
YEAR OF BIRTH

YEAR OF VACCINATION	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	TOTAL
	Total Live Births	840	938	856	901	945	1,017	958	874	981	967	942	848	923	875	917	913
	1954	131	181														312
	1955	8	115	177													300
	1956	3	15	126	229												373
	1957	2	7	7	14	192	304										526
	1958																
	1959	1	4	2	6	10	184	297									504
	1960	3	4	6	6	8	12	161	221								421
	1961	4	2	4	4	14	26	29	199	260							542
	1962			439	37	74	69	64	84	380	262						1,409
	1963				49	5	3	5	9	15	97	16					199
	1964					27	7	7	11	13	77	249	12				403
	1965						18	3	8	8	29	160	250	9			485
	1966							35	6	7	17	35	176	297	8		581
	1967								32		15	28	45	177	351	8	656
	1968									74	6	17	22	32	178	367	1 697
		152	328	761	345	330	623	601	570	757	503	505	505	515	537	375	1 7,408



# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

NUMBERS RECEIVING FULL PRIMARY COURSE OF DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

YEAR OF BIRTH

Total Live Births	YEAR OF IMMUNISATION																TOTAL
	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	
	840	938	856	901	945	1,017	958	874	981	967	942	848	923	875	917	913	
1953	21																21
1954	204	66															270
1955	30	237	66														333
1956	10	19	219	97													345
1957	12	13	28	209	101												363
1958	96	8	9	34	259	112											518
1959	87	107	9	15	28	284	126										656
1960	2	51	105	8	13	39	241	166									625
1961	3	4	54	84	18	23	48	399	338								971
1962		2	7	54	43	8	14	35	421	267							851
1963		1	1	4	68	27	6	11	46	414	363						941
1964		1		2	5	78	30	11	13	46	384	348					918
1965					1		43	22	8	11	25	378	398				886
1966									3	8	22	17	372	385			807
1967								1		5	15	15	22	378	413		849
1968										1	4	6	3	18	387	379	798
TOTAL	465	509	498	507	536	571	508	645	829	752	813	764	795	781	800	379	10,152

# POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

## YEAR OF BIRTH

1943 1944 1945 1946 1947  
 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962  
 -1943 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961 1962 1963 1964 1965 1966 1967 1968 0-15 All  
 Ages

1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	0-15	All Ages
199	150	6,160											199
1958	150	6,160										6,160	6,310
1959	1,454		3,739									3,739	5,193
1960	944			1,111								1,111	2,055
1961	938			1,051	163							1,214	2,152
1962	2,718			837	663	156						1,656	4,374
1963	261			141	38	535	154					868	1,129
1964	65			105	26	92	582	147				952	1,017
1965	59			73	14	39	55	568	180			929	988
1966	46			64	31	25	45	72	567	188		992	1,038
1967	23			13	15	13	17	19	31	548	256	912	935
1968	7			5	1	12	5	9	15	43	203	840	847
	6,864	6,160	3,739	3,400	951	872	858	815	793	779	803	19,373	26,237

YEAR OF VACCINATION

## Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Number of children who received courses of immunisation in year:

Year of Birth	Diphtheria	Tetanus	Pertussis	Diphtheria and Pertussis	Diphtheria and Tetanus	Diphtheria Pertussis and Tetanus	
1968	—	—	—	—	—	379	PRIMARY
1967	—	1	—	—	7	387	
1966	—	—	—	—	3	18	
1965	—	—	—	—	1	3	
1964	—	—	—	—	2	6	
1963	—	1	—	—	12	4	
1962	—	1	—	—	35	1	
1961 or earlier	—	51	—	—	4	—	
TOTAL	—	54	—	—	64	798	
1968	—	—	—	—	—	—	BOOSTERS
1967	—	1	—	—	1	11	
1966	—	—	—	—	8	28	
1965	—	2	—	—	4	3	
1964	—	3	—	—	5	2	
1963	2	1	—	—	487	15	
1962	2	2	—	—	239	4	
1961 or earlier	—	41	—	—	11	2	
TOTAL	4	50	—	—	755	65	

### B.C.G. Vaccination

Group					Tuberculin Tested		Negative Re-actors		Vaccinated during 1968	
					M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Nurses	..	..	..	..	14	210	2	56	2	56
Contacts	..	..	..	..	27	47	27	44	23	36
School Children	..	..	..	..	379	418	338	384	338	384
TOTAL	..	..	..	..	420	675	367	484	363	476

Number of Contacts Tuberculin Tested  
under the B.C.G. Vaccination Scheme:

Age Group	Result				Totals	Given B.C.G.		
	Positive		Negative					
	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Under 1 year .. ..	—	1	4	6	4	7	3	5
1 and under 5 years .. ..	—	1	18	26	18	27	16	24
5 and under 10 years .. ..	—	1	4	9	4	10	4	5
10 and under 15 years .. ..	—	—	1	3	1	3	—	2
15 and under 20 years .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 years and over .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total Tests Performed ..	—	3	27	44	27	47	23	36

6. PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE  
(Section 27)

Health Education

Health Education is continually given by all the members of the Health Department team, doctors, health visitors, sanitary inspectors, nurses and midwives in their day-to-day contact with the members of the public but in addition a great deal is done by individuals giving talks to groups of outside organisations, mothers' clubs and so on, and in addition every opportunity is taken to improve health by poster, exhibit and other means of publicity. The health visitors instruct classes in the Secondary Schools in the formal careers' course and during the year 34 sessions were held.

	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>
Number of staff devoting whole time to Health Education .. .. .	—	—

Tuberculosis

The health visitors made 72 visits to households where there were notified cases of tuberculosis to advise them in general hygiene, care of the patient, diet, and other aspects of their welfare. They also attended the Chest Clinic at Victoria Hospital on the occasions on which it was held.

Chiropody

This is a particularly essential service to the elderly and the handicapped as foot deformities and discomforts can reduce their activities and this tends to cause deterioration in their general health. In addition to the domiciliary service the chiropodist visits Abden and Denend Homes once a month.

Cases and Treatments

	Number of Cases	No. of Treatments
Local Authority Chiropodist	554 (343)	3,016 } 4,547 (1,470 } 3,070
Private Chiropodists (3)	291 (340)	1,531 } (1,600 }

Amount of fees recovered during the year ..	£114 15 0	(£202 4 0)
Amount of fees paid to private chiropodists during the year .. .. .	£812 4 6	(£1,189 16 6)

(Figures in brackets from 1967 Report)

Rehousing

In relation to Medical and Medico-Social reasons 228 applications for medical priority were received during the year.

One hundred and four families were rehoused who had been recommended for health reasons. Sixty-four of these had been rehoused within a year of getting the recommendation, sixteen within two years, and the remaining twenty-four had waited more than two years, but some of these had only marginal health reasons for rehousing.



## Convalescence

No cases were sent during the year for convalescence.

## Provision of Nursing Equipment

Nursing equipment is loaned in appropriate circumstances to help nursing of invalids in the home. This equipment is held by the District Nurses and is also obtainable from the department.

During the year 107 articles of medical equipment were on loan from the department.

## Diagnostic Clinic

A clinic primarily instituted for the early diagnosis of cancer of the cervix was started at the beginning of 1967. This clinic was held at Fair Isle Clinic weekly, morning one week and evening the alternate week. It was open to all women between the ages of 35 and 60 in the area but the propaganda was aimed primarily at those at greatest risk, that is, those who had married early or had large families, or lived in poor housing, and the health visitors made special efforts to interest mothers who came into this category.

It was felt that other simple screening procedures could be done at the same time with little inconvenience to the women and to their ultimate advantage, so simple blood tests for anaemia and urine testing for sugar were done. Their breasts were examined, and they were weighed.

No. of women who attended the clinic during 1968	629	(1,041)
No. of satisfactory cervical smears .. ..	590	(1,009)
No. of suspicious smears or suspicious symptoms on examination .. ..	21	(17)
No. referred to general practitioner .. ..	*21	(17)
No. not smeared for various reasons .. ..	18	(16)

Of the \*21 referred to general practitioners 9 subsequently had satisfactory smears. The remaining 12 have all had treatment.

In addition to these 21 mentioned, 165 were found to have other gynaecological defects, mainly minor in nature, 4 had glycosuria, 10 had some suspicion of breast pathology, and 41 had some evidence of anaemia using the rather rough and ready screening test. All these results were reported to the patient's own doctor for further action where he considered it necessary.

Three deaths occurred from malignant neoplasm of cervix uteri during the year, age groups 45+, 55+ and 65+.

As can be seen there was a considerable drop in numbers who attended. This may be partly accounted for by the fact that more were seeing their own general practitioners directly but it also reflects a real fall in attendance. A proportion of women were interested and these have now been examined. The difficulty is to interest the vast



majority of women so that they will accept this medical examination which is so simple and relatively free of discomfort but which can be so vital to the woman suffering from a precancerous curable condition.

## 7. HOME HELP SERVICE (Section 28)

The Home Help Service has continued to run satisfactorily during the year but the amount of administrative and field work required to be done to keep it running is very considerable and heavily involves health visiting and office staff.

	HOME HELP TO HOUSEHOLDS FOR PERSONS					TOTAL
	Aged 65 or over on first visit in 1968	Aged under 65 on first visit				
		Chronic Sick	Mentally Dis- ordered	Maternity	Others	
Number of Cases ..	375 (397)	13 (39)	1 (—)	1 (1)	37 (15)	427 (452)

(Figures in brackets from 1967 Annual Report)

No. of part-time home helps in service on 31/12/67 ..	229
No. of part-time home helps in service on 31/12/68 ..	214
No. of home helps recruited during the year .. ..	15
No. of home helps who left the service during the year ..	30
No. of hours' service given during the year .. ..	126,346

## 8. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

The two Mental Welfare Officers continued to care for and supervise the mentally ill and the mental defectives.

### Mental Defectives

	M.	F.
No. of children (under 16 years) in Institutions ..	13	13
No. of adults (under private guardianship) ..	—	2
No. of adults in Institutions .. .. .	34	23

Fifteen mental defectives are at the Fife County Senior Occupation Centre in Kirkcaldy at which eighteen places are reserved for Kirkcaldy Burgh cases.

There they make a varied assortment of toys, corrugated boxes and firewood, and can earn up to £1 19s. 11d. per week.

No. of children reported under Section 65, Education (Scotland) Act, 1962, to Local Authority in 1968 ..	Nil
No. of school leavers reported under Section 66, Education (Scotland) Act, 1962, to Local Authority in 1968 .. .. .	2
(1 of these school leavers is now working)	

	Male	Female
No. on Register .. .. .	39	28
No. of these in employment .. .. .	14	10
No. of these over 65/60 .. .. .	—	1
No. in Senior Occupation Centre .. .. .	8	7
No. of visits made in year to supervise .. .. .	135	

### Mental Illness

During the year 1968, two females were certified as mentally ill and removed to Stratheden Hospital, Cupar.

### 9. WORK DONE UNDER THE NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1938

No Nursing Homes operate in the Burgh.

### 10. WORK UNDER NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1948

	Premises registered at end of year		Child Minders registered at end of year
	Provided by Commercial Firms	Other Nurseries	
1. Number .. .. .	—	—	6 (9)
2. Number of places approved and number of children minded .. .. .	—	—	97 (97)

(Figures in brackets from 1967 Annual Report)

### B. ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The year was relatively uneventful in the infectious diseases field.

#### Notification of Infectious Diseases 1968

Nature of Disease	No. of Cases Notified	Removed to Hospital	Not Removed to Hospital
Chickenpox .. .. .	161 (74)	—	161
Measles .. .. .	62 (372)	1	61
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	59 (26)	—	59
Whooping Cough .. .. .	5 (123)	—	5
Infective Hepatitis .. .. .	86 (27)	5	81
Pneumonia, acute primary .. .. .	16 (10)	8	8
Pneumonia, acute Influenzal Respiratory Infection .. .. .	1 (—)	1	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	18 (16)	18	—
German Measles .. .. .	1 (1)	—	1
Dysentery .. .. .	3 (105)	—	3
Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. .. .	262 (82)	13	249
Erysipelas .. .. .	3 (2)	3	—
	4 (6)	—	4
TOTAL .. .. .	681 (844)	49	632

### Chickenpox

The numbers notified of this usually mild epidemic disease of children increased from 74 to 161.

### Measles

In 1968 there were 62 notified cases as compared to 372 in 1967.

### Scarlet Fever

This, at the moment, mild infectious disease has not been prevalent for some years. Fifty-nine cases were notified in 1968 as compared to 26 in 1967.

### Dysentery

Two hundred and sixty-two cases of dysentery were notified during the year and eighteen others discovered on investigation. The *Shigella* Sonnei organism was isolated in 225 of these cases.

### Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year but investigation of notified cases of dysentery and enteritis uncovered 34 people who in fact were excreting food poisoning organisms.

### Whooping Cough

Five cases were notified in 1968, compared to 123 in 1967. Even when diagnosed now this disease is usually mild, but in the non-immune it can be very serious and efforts to keep up the state of immunity were sustained throughout the year.

### Infective Hepatitis

Eighty-six cases were notified in 1968 compared to 27 in 1967. Sixty-eight were children and 18 adults. The incubation period of this disease is rather long and makes prevention very difficult.

### Pulmonary Tuberculosis

Eight cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1968 as compared with ten for the previous year. Seven of the eight cases were later confirmed as suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis.

### Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis

One case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during 1968, being the same number for the previous year.

The number of persons resident in the area at 31st December, 1968, who remain under supervision because of tuberculosis is:

Pulmonary	..	..	..	..	87
Non-Pulmonary	..	..	..	..	9
					<hr/>
Total	..	..	..	..	96
					<hr/>

## Tuberculosis

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis Site of Disease	Males	Females	Total
Abdominal .....	—	—	—
Miliary .....	—	—	—
Superficial Glands .....	—	1	1
Genito-Urinary Organs .....	—	—	—
Other Organs .....	—	—	—
Total .....	—	1	1

	Age Period	No. of cases notified		No. of notified cases actually confirmed		No. of notified cases receiving Sanatorium treatment		No. of Deaths of notified cases		Total Deaths	
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
PULMONARY	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 15 years	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	15 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45 to 55 years	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	55 to 65 years	1	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
	65 upwards	3	1	3	1	3	1	3	—	3	—
NON-PULMONARY	Totals ..	5	3	4	3	3	3	3	—	3	—
	Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	5 to 15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	15 to 25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	25 to 35 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	35 to 45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	45 to 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65 upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

## C. PORT HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Fifty-seven ships from foreign ports entered Kirkcaldy Harbour during 1968 and pratique was granted in all cases.



## WELFARE SERVICES

The Welfare Services under the National Assistance Act, 1948, are administered by the Welfare Committee of the Burgh and deal with the provision of residential accommodation for the aged and infirm and others in need of care and attention, provision of temporary accommodation for persons in urgent need, the registration and inspection of disabled persons and old persons' homes provided otherwise than by the local authority and provision of welfare services for the blind, deaf and dumb, crippled and others suffering from disabilities.

### RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION

Residential accommodation is provided by the Council in accordance with a scheme made under Section 21 of the Act and welfare services for handicapped in accordance with schemes made under Section 29 of the Act.

Dr. Mirrey of Kinghorn acts as General Practitioner for all the residents in Abden Home and I would like to express thanks to him for the very excellent care he gives them.

The borderline between chronic sick old people looked after in these Homes and hospital cases is very indefinite and matrons, staff, and general practitioners have a great deal of responsibility and work in maintaining these old people in comfort.

Accommodation for the aged and infirm continues to be provided in the following Homes:

Abden Home . .	..	60 beds
Denend Home	..	30 beds

Throughout the year 33 persons were admitted to the Homes, 25 from their own homes, 1 direct from hospital, 7 as re-admissions after periods of hospital treatment.

At the end of the year there was a waiting list of 14 women and 5 men for admission to Denend Home and a waiting list of 3 women for admission to ground floor accommodation in Abden Home. At end of 1968 the figures were 8 women and 2 men for Denend and one woman for ground floor accommodation in Abden.

All the evidence is that this waiting list will lengthen and that the need particularly for ground floor beds will become more and more pressing.

The number according to various age groups of the total of 33 is as follows:

	Age up to 64	up to 69	up to 74	up to 79	up to 84	up to 89	90+
Abden Home	4	1	2	6	6	2	3
Denend Home	—	—	1	2	4	1	1

	Abden Home		Denend Home	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Number at 31/12/67 .. ..	27	23	11	19
Admitted during 1968 .. ..	14	10	3	6
Discharged during 1968 .. ..	12	5	2	5
Deaths during 1968 .. ..	8	1	2	1
Number at 31/12/68 .. ..	21	27	10	19

Television is provided in both Homes and is well patronised by the residents.

Four concerts were arranged at Abden Home during the winter months to which residents of Denend Home were conveyed by bus.

Two bus outings were arranged for the residents of both Homes, one going to Doune and the other to Anstruther.

The annual tea and outing to the local Operatic Society, arranged by the Rotary Club, was also much appreciated by the residents of both Homes.

Chiropody treatment is carried out in both Homes. A qualified Chiropodist attends at the Home once every four weeks.

The undernoted table shows the number of persons classified according to handicap in various homes at the end of the year:

#### Persons Resident in Accommodation on 31st December, 1968

Description of Persons Accommodated	In Premises Managed by the Council		In Accommodation provided on behalf of the Council		Number of Persons Accommodated for whom other Local Authorities are Responsible		Total Number of Persons for whom the Council are Responsible	
			By other Local Authorities	By Voluntary Organisations				
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Not Materially Handicapped:								
Aged .. ..	3	—	—	—	1	—	4	—
Not Aged .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Defective Sight:								
Aged .. ..	2	3	—	—	—	1	2	4
Not Aged .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Defective Hearing:								
Aged .. ..	1	6	—	—	—	1	1	7
Epileptic:								
Aged .. ..	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	2
Not Aged .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
Other Physically Handicapped:								
Aged .. ..	21	22	—	—	—	7	20	29
Not Aged .. ..	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
Mentally Handicapped:								
Aged .. ..	3	13	—	—	—	1	2	13
Not Aged .. ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
<b>TOTAL .. ..</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>59</b>

### Day Care Cases

No cases were accommodated in Denend Home on a day care basis during the year.

### Temporary Accommodation

No provision of temporary accommodation was found to be necessary during the year.

### OTHER HOMES

To meet the needs of handicapped and aged persons use is made of Voluntary Associations and other Homes. At the end of the year 14 persons were being accommodated. Of these, five were in a Church of Scotland Home, three in the Epileptic Colony, Bridge of Weir, two in Blind Home, one in Cockburn House, Kennoway, one in Salvation Army Home, Dundee, one in Edinburgh Deaf and Dumb Home, and one in Gabriel Wood Mariners' Home.

The following table shows the number of persons classified according to handicap in these Homes at the end of the year.

Description of Persons Accommodated	Male		Female		Total (both sexes all ages)
	Aged	Not Aged	Aged	Not Aged	
Defective Sight .. ..	—	—	1	1	2
Defective Hearing ..	—	—	1	—	1
Epilepsy .. .. .	—	1	—	2	3
Other Physical Handicap	1	—	7	—	8
TOTAL .. .. .	1	1	9	3	14

Registration and inspection of disabled or Old Persons' Homes.

(Section 37) .. .. .	1
Removals (Section 47) .. .. .	Nil
Care of Property (Section 48) .. .. .	1
Burials (Section 50) .. .. .	12

### ALTERATIONS AND ADAPTATIONS

Twenty-three handicapped persons had alterations or additions made to their homes during the year at a cost to the Local Authority of £494 : 4 : 10. The principal items were; altering bathrooms, widening doors, ramps for wheelchairs, extensions and handrails to stairs, and bath rails. In addition, aids were bought for six handicapped persons at a cost of £17 : 11 : 9. The hilly nature of the town often requires that even ground floor houses and flats have several steps up to their front and back doors and this increases the problem of suitably housing disabled.

## BLIND AND PARTIALLY SIGHTED

The Welfare Services for the Blind and Partially Sighted are carried out on behalf of the Town Council by the Fife Society for the Blind. The council are represented on the Committee of the Society. A per capita grant of £11 : 10 : 0 per annum is paid by the Council to the Society for each Registered Blind Person. A per capita grant of £1 per annum is also paid for each Registered Partially Sighted Person. At 31st December, 1968, there were 128 Blind Persons (51 men, 77 women) registered with the Authority and of these 31 men were aged 65 years and over and 71 women were 60 years and over. On the Partially Sighted Register there were 38 (18 men and 20 women ).

## DEAF AND DUMB

The Welfare Services for the Deaf and Dumb are carried out on behalf of the Council by the Fife Mission of the Deaf and Dumb Christian Association. The Council are represented on the Association. A per capita grant of £7 : 10 : 0 is paid by the Council to the Fife Mission for each registered Deaf and Dumb person. At 31st December, 1968, there were 40 registered Deaf and Dumb persons (19 men and 21 women).

## MEALS ON WHEELS

This scheme which came into operation on 6th May, 1963, has operated satisfactorily during 1968. The meals are supplied under contract by the Central and East Fife Co-operative Society on six days per week. Over 60% of the recipients take meals on 6 days per week, the remainder having meals 3, 4 or 5 days per week. Persons entitled to participate in this scheme are males 65 years or over and females 60 years or over, and handicapped persons, if their income, after deducting any Social Security Grant, disability, war injury or blind Pension, does not exceed £8 per week in the case of a married couple and £4 : 12 : 6 per week in the case of a single person.

During the year 1968, 81,333 meals were served as compared with 83,643 for the previous year. At the end of the year 284 persons were receiving Meals on Wheels.

No. participating at 1/1/68	..	..	..	..	302
New applications during year	..	..	..	..	134
No. of applications cancelled during year	..	..	..	..	152
No. on Register at 31/12/68	..	..	..	..	284
Cost to Local Authority ..	..	..	..	..	£14,070

## PROTECTION OF PROPERTY

No movable property of persons admitted to Hospital required to be safeguarded for the period they were in hospital.



## **INTERMENTS**

Under the provision of Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Welfare Department has arranged for the burial of twelve deceased persons for whom no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the bodies had been, or were being made.

Interments are arranged in accordance with a contract drawn up between the Local Authority and a local Undertaker.

Full funeral costs were recovered from the estate of decease in four instances and part of the cost recovered in five cases.

## **NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS 1948 and 1951**

### **Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention**

No action was taken under the National Assistance Acts during the year.

## **OTHER WELFARE WORK**

The Welfare Officer acts as Agent for several Voluntary Societies (e.g. Cancer Relief) in the disbursement of grants made by those Societies. There were four beneficiaries to whom grants were paid during the year.

## **DISABLED DRIVERS**

During the year 10 badges were issued to Disabled Drivers (7 males and 3 females) exempting them from the Royal Burgh of Kirkcaldy (Traffic Regulations) Experimental Order, 1965.

## **CLUB FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS**

In November, 1967 a club for severely physically handicapped adults was opened at Hayfield Clinic. This club, open every Wednesday afternoon, is staffed by an occupational therapist, a nurse, the welfare officers, and voluntary workers.

The members are encouraged to do various types of occupations such as weaving, basketry, embroidery and so on, but there is no onus on them to do this and they can attend just for the social side.

The special vehicle continues to operate satisfactorily.

The average attendance during the year was nineteen.

## **D. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE**

Fife County Council is the education authority for the Burgh but the school health service is delegated to our health department and two medical officers devote approximately 50 per cent of their time to this work,

The health visitors take a very active part in the secondary schools in the vocational training classes and are accepted in these schools as part-time teachers.

As mentioned elsewhere B.C.G. is now offered to entrants to secondary schools instead of to thirteen year olds.

Because of the shortage of consultant ophthalmologists it has been necessary to refer pupils with simple refractive errors to their family doctors for onward referral to opticians but it is still possible to have all pupils with strabismus referred to the consultant.

Incidental physical disease of children, such as skin lesions, otorrhoeas and so on, are now much less common but on the other hand more and more children appear to require examination and treatment for emotional and behaviour problems.

I would like to thank the headmasters and teachers of all the schools for their help and co-operation.

The brief summary relating to the school year August, 1967/68 is given herewith:

			Boys	Girls	Total
Number of parents present at medical inspection:					
(a) with entrant infants	..	..	313	292	605
(b) with others (second age group)	..	..	168	206	374
Number of examinations:					
Entrants	..	..	420	451	871
Second age group	..	..	252	188	440
Third age group	..	..	362	406	768
Vision testing (6-7 years)	..	..	348	321	669
Fourth age group	..	..	100	—	100
Re-examinations	..	..	118	92	210
Non-routine examinations	..	..	95	64	159
Total	..	..	1,695	1,522	3,217

Number of children examined

by School Nurses	..	..	..	14,038
Clean	..	..	..	13,813
Nits or head vermin	..	..	..	225
Special Clinics - Eye	..	..	..	22

Treatments carried out by School Nurses					<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>
Uncleanliness or Neglect	..	..	..	..	—	—
Impetigo Contagiosa	..	..	..	..	1	3
Other Skin Conditions	..	..	..	..	1	1
Nose and Throat cases	..	..	..	..	1	1
Eye Disease (external)	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other cases	..	..	..	..	1	1
Cuts and Bruises	..	..	..	..	4	7
Septic conditions	..	..	..	..	4	5
Accidents	..	..	..	..	—	—
Advisory cases	..	..	..	..	—	—
Ear cases	..	..	..	..	7	8
Head vermin	..	..	..	..	—	—

Minor ailment clinics as such are no longer held but 9 cases made 9 attendances for treatment by nurses at Local Health Authority clinics.

Applications for boots and clothing are now sent to the Director of Education.

Number of school leavers notified by the School Medical Officer to the Education Authority under Section 66 of the Education (Scotland) Act, 1966 .. .. . 4

					<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>	<i>Total</i>
Forms Y. 9 issued in 1968/69	..	..	..	..	96	12	108
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	5	—	5
Asthma	..	..	..	..	19	2	21
History of Rheumatic Fever	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Colour Blindness	..	..	..	..	41	1	42
Artificial Right Leg	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Eczema	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Psoriasis	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Nephrosis	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Congenital Deformities, Fingers, Toes	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Epileptic	..	..	..	..	3	1	4
Wheezing Attacks	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Old Injury Left Arm	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
History of Fits	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Defective Hearing	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Stammering	..	..	..	..	3	—	3
Nocturnal Enuresis	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
History of Fainting Turns	..	..	..	..	2	—	2
Diabetes Mellitus	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Mental Retardation	..	..	..	..	5	—	5
History of Joint Pains	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Monocular Vision	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Allergy History	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Weak Eyesight	..	..	..	..	1	—	1
Artificial Arm	..	..	..	..	—	1	1
Forms Y.10 issued in 1968/69	..	..	..	..	6	4	10

## Dental Inspection and Treatment

### Section I—GENERAL STATISTICS

Age	Routine Dental Inspection	With Dental Defects	Offered Treatment	Accepting Treatment	Treated	Special and Emergency Cases
—5	107	66	66	33	32	—
5	1,328	739	739	289	251	34
6	851	423	423	259	224	53
7	653	306	306	215	196	39
8	731	283	283	214	200	27
9	742	274	274	168	165	18
10	784	283	283	145	143	27
11	671	243	243	128	125	19
12	414	145	145	90	88	14
13	486	206	206	55	53	10
14	584	229	229	69	66	14
15	183	64	64	40	40	5
16	21	4	4	17	17	3
17	—	—	—	7	7	1
TOTALS	7,555	3,265	3,265	1,729	1,607	264

Attendances for Treatment 5 to 17 years . . . 4,378

### Section II—DETAILS OF TREATMENT

	Routine	Special and Emergency	Total
(a) Fillings:			
(i) Permanent teeth . . . . .	1,399	45	1,444
(ii) Deciduous teeth . . . . .	856	35	891
(b) Extractions (excluding orthodontic):			
(i) Permanent teeth . . . . .	113	15	128
(ii) Deciduous teeth . . . . .	737	151	888
General Anaesthetics . . . . .	—	—	—
Other operations—Permanent teeth . . . . .	2,145	142	2,287
Deciduous teeth . . . . .	559	47	606
Dentures—Partial . . . . .	4	—	4
Full . . . . .	1	—	1
Radiographs—No. of exposures Intra-oral . . . . .	—	—	44
(Excluding orthodontics)			
" —Extra-Oral . . . . .	—	—	12



### Section III—Orthodontic Treatment

No. of cases continued from previous year .. ..	41
New cases .. .. .	9
Cases completed .. .. .	6
Cases discontinued .. .. .	4
Cases continuing at end of year .. .. .	31
Attendances for treatment .. .. .	339
No. of consultations with R.H.B. orthodontist .. ..	55

  

	R.H.B. Consultant	School Dental Officer	Total
No. of diagnostic examinations .. .. .	55		55
Not followed by treatment .. .. .	—		—
No. of Cases			
with removable appliances .. .. .	11		11
with fixed appliances .. .. .	—		—
No. of extractions (non-carious)			
(i) Permanent teeth .. .. .		18	18
(ii) Deciduous teeth .. .. .		5	5
Repairs to orthodontic appliances .. .. .		—	—
Radiographs—No. of exposures			
(a) Intra-oral .. .. .		25	25
(b) Extra-oral .. .. .		26	26

### Section IV—DENTAL STAFF

	Dental Surgeons	Dental Hygienists	Surgery Assistants
Establishment of posts agreed by Council .. .. .	3		3
No. in post at 31/7/68—Wholetime .. .. .	1		2
Part-time .. .. .	1		—
Whole-time equivalent of part-time .. .. .	$\frac{1}{3}$		—
Total whole-time equivalent .. .. .	$1\frac{1}{3}$		2
Total half-days worked during year ended 31/7/68:			
(a) in School Health Service .. .. .	584		
(b) in Maternity and Child Welfare Service .. .. .	58		

### Section V—ALLOCATION OF TIME

	Dental Surgeons	Dental Hygienists	Surgery Assistants
Total actual half-days .. .. .	646		
Estimated number of half days occupied in Inspection .. .. .	76		
Dental Health Education .. .. .	—		
Treatment (other than orthodontics) .. .. .			
School .. .. .	477		
Orthodontic treatment .. .. .	25		
Treatment—M. & C. W. .. .. .	58		
Administration (approx.) .. .. .	6		
Absence due to illness .. .. .	—		64
Attending Conferences .. .. .	4		
TOTAL .. .. .	646		64

## APPENDIX

### FACTORIES ACT, 1961

This table is enclosed at the request of the Minister of Labour to indicate to Medical Officers of Health the prescribed particulars required by Section 153(1) of the Factories Act, 1961, to be furnished in their Annual Reports or with respect to matters under Parts I and VIII of that Act administered by the County or Town Council. It is not intended to supersede the fuller statement which is desirable in the text of the Report, but should be attached as an annex.

#### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1968 FOR THE BURGH OF KIRKCALDY IN THE COUNTY OF FIFE

##### Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1961 Part I of the Act

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities† ..... ..	14	2	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authorities ..... ..	309	37	—	—
(3) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the local authority‡ (including out-workers' premises) .....	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	323	39	—	—

†To prevent any differences between the lists kept respectively by the Local Authorities and H.M. Inspectors of Factories of the numbers of factories in which sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 of the Factories Act, 1961, are enforced by Local Authorities, it is requested that Local Authorities should compare their lists of factories with the lists kept by H.M. Inspectors of Factories.

‡i.e. Electrical Stations (Section 123(1)), Institutions (Section 124), sites of Building Operations and Works of Engineering Construction (Section 127), Slaughterhouses (Section 175(1)(d) and (e)) and Railway Running Sheds (Section 175(2) and (10)).

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found:

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	2	2	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	2	2	—	—	—

**Part VIII of the Act**

**OUTWORK**

(Sections 133 and 134)

**Nil**

DEPARTMENT OF SANITARY AND CLEANSING,  
TOWN HOUSE,  
KIRKCALDY.

*October, 1969.*

*To the* PROVOST, MAGISTRATES AND TOWN COUNCILLORS,  
OF THE ROYAL BURGH OF KIRKCALDY.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the general sanitary condition of the Burgh and the work performed by the Sanitary and Cleansing Departments during the year 1968.

This report has been compiled in accordance with the terms of the Health and Welfare Services Circular No. 33/1968.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. IRVINE  
*Chief Sanitary Inspector*



## HOUSING

### 1. General Progress

This was a poor year for houses constructed by the local authority, only a total of 95 being completed. However this figure was augmented by 102 privately built houses for owner occupation and three houses for police purposes.

This temporary curtailment in house building was reflected in progress made with the closure of unfit houses, only 73 houses being closed this year under Section 15 of the Housing (Scotland) Act, 1966. Of these, 69 were subjects of Demolition Orders and 4 subjects of Closing Orders. The property block 54-56 Nicol Street containing 23 houses and 1 shop was surveyed and reported to the Housing Committee for designation as a Clearance Area. In addition 145 were closed voluntarily by owners, the vast majority of these being properties acquired by the local authority. A further 69 houses were closed in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area. Eight houses were closed temporarily in Harriet Street to allow modernisation to continue in a three storey tenemental block acquired by the local authority.

A total of 355 condemned houses were demolished during the year.

Of the new houses completed by the Council 27 were occupied by families from unfit or closed houses, 12 from overcrowded houses, 21 were health cases, 14 were homeless or young couples with families in sub-let rooms, and 27 were decants, transfers or priority let cases.

In the reletting of existing Council houses, 181 tenants came from unfit or closed houses, 41 from overcrowded houses, 47 were health cases, 21 were homeless or young couples with families in sub-let rooms, and 208 were decants, priority lets, transfers or badly housed cases.

The Burgh Factor's waiting list for houses increased from 2080 at the beginning of the year to 2297 at the end of the year and was made up as follows: elderly persons and couples 125; homeless families 823, of whom 66 have two or more children; 136 health cases; 215 overcrowded families; 8 families in houses classified as unfit; 805 families not overcrowded in sub-standard housing wishing houses with modern amenities; and 185 badly housed families.

There were 540 marriages in the town during 1968 and a number of these young couples would find accommodation in the 172 tenement type properties advertised for sale during the year.

Forty-three visits were made in relation to enquiries regarding housing improvement grants and as a result 10 Improvement Grants and 24 Standard Grants were approved, the majority being owner-occupiers improving tenement type property. A meeting was held with a Housing Association anxious to do house modernisation in the burgh and although details of a suitable block of privately owned two-storey

tenement property containing 16 houses was submitted to them, to date there has been no further development.

Housing reports were prepared concerning 77 houses likely to be acquired by purchasers in terms of the Council's scheme for Housing Act loans and in 17 cases loans were granted.

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received, and in my opinion this aspect of housing legislation no longer serves any useful purpose.

Ninety-six plans for improvements or alterations to houses, including in a number of cases the provision of bathrooms, were examined and reported on in conjunction with the Burgh Engineer to ensure compliance with Building Regulations.

During the year as a follow-up to the Cullingworth Report 'Scotland's Older Houses' a complete housing survey was carried out of all tenement type housing. A new housing record card shown at Appendix 1 was introduced for this purpose based on the 'tolerable standard', and a total of 4,613 visits were made in connection with this survey. Inspectors also carried out another 3,029 visits in connection with the survey of unfit houses for report to Committee, sub-standard housing, changes of tenancies and occupation of new houses to maintain up to date housing records, and storm damage inspections.

Kirkcaldy, like many other towns in the Central Scotland belt, suffered widespread damage as a result of the severe gale which swept across the country on the night of 14th-15th January. This was the most severe storm in living memory and in the morning the evidence of damage throughout the town had to be seen to be believed. Many roofs had been partially stripped of tiles, slates and flashings, hundreds of chimney cans were down, and dozens of chimney heads had crashed either on to the roof or into the streets.

Tradesmen were in short supply, and in the initial period it was a case of anyone with experience of working on roofs or at heights being recruited to carry out emergency repairs. When it was possible to ascertain the damage done, it was found over 8,000 local authority houses, nearly 3,000 privately owned tenements and approximately 1,000 other privately owned houses had all been affected. The Sanitary Department was responsible for ensuring the repair of the privately owned tenement property and by the end of the year only twenty houses remained without permanent repair completed.

## **2. Milk Supply**

Two registered dairy farms within the Burgh remained in production throughout the year, but towards the end of the year another farm having a modern cattle court and milking parlour which had

discontinued milk production less than a year previous, again applied for registration, the son of the previous owner having decided to build up a new dairy herd from a small nucleus of pedigree attested Friesians. The total average daily output of milk from these farms was 340 gallons, all of which was consigned to the Milk Marketing Board Creamery at Glenrothes. In addition there is one beef rearing farm, exempt from registration where a small amount of milk is produced for household purposes only and for feeding to calves. At one of the smaller farms improvements were carried out, these included modernisation of the dairy premises and the installation of a new 200 gallon bulk tank with 'in-line' milking. Regular visits were made to the farms for the purpose of milk sampling as well as carrying out routine inspection of dairy premises, utensils, and equipment. The general cleanliness of premises and equipment were found to be satisfactory and this was reflected in the results of milk samples taken, all of which complied with the prescribed regulations.

Throughout the year six private milk retailers continued within the Burgh, these having a daily turnover of 490 gallons of Premium milk, 520 gallons of Standard milk, and 780 gallons of Pasteurised milk.

Details of dairy premises registered and licensed in 1968 were as follows:

#### REGISTRATION: MILK AND DAIRIES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1914-22

	<i>Number</i>
Dairy Byres capable of housing 120 cows .. ..	3
Milk retailers retailing within the Burgh .. ..	7
Retail shops selling bottled or cartoned milk .. ..	73
Producers and wholesalers who do not sell by retail .. ..	3

### 3. Milk (Special Designations) Orders

	<i>Number</i>
Producers licensed to produce Standard Milk .. ..	3
Dealers licensed to sell Standard Milk (Wholesale only)	1
Pasteurisers licences .. ..	2
Dealers licensed to sell Premium Milk .. ..	3
Dealers licensed to sell Standard Milk .. ..	25
Dealers licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk .. ..	34

In addition retailers outwith the Burgh had the following licences:

	<i>Number</i>
Supplementary licences to sell Premium Milk .. ..	1
Supplementary licences to sell Standard Milk .. ..	1
Supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised Milk .. ..	1

To ensure compliance with the prescribed tests the undernoted milks were submitted to the Fife District Laboratory, Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy.



				<i>Number</i>	<i>Conformed</i>	<i>Failed</i>
Premium Milk	..	..	..	8	6	2
Standard Milk	..	..	..	20	17	3
Local Producers (Standard)	..			6	6	—
Vending Machines	..	..		4	1	3
Pasteurised Milk						
Dairy Samples	..	..	..	10	10	—
School Samples	..	..	..	13	10	3
Retail Vans	..	..	..	5	4	1
Shops	..	..	..	15	12	3
				<hr/> 81 <hr/>	<hr/> 66 <hr/>	<hr/> 15 <hr/>

Milk samples not conforming to prescribed tests were less than in the previous year when 20 samples failed. High bacterial counts caused failure in 2 samples, coliform organisms were found in 7 samples and both high counts and coliform organisms were found in 6 samples. There were no phosphatase test failures. The percentage of failures for the year was 18% which was 2% less than the previous year's failures. All failures concerned milk produced in the County area and this necessitated the results of tests being passed to the respective County Sanitary Inspectors for investigation at the producing farms by Milk Officers. There were no instances of three consecutive failures.

As a result of the follow-up investigations to these samples, one producer found sub-clinical mastitis in his herd and the milk supply was withdrawn for a period of seven days while the cows received anti-biotic treatment.

### **Milk Vending Machines**

For the first four months of the year, the four milk vending machines within the Burgh continued to operate, but owing to vandalism, the owner of the machines intimated that he wished to withdraw the vending machines and have his supplementary milk licence cancelled.

### **Milk Dispensers**

At the beginning of the year milk dispensers were withdrawn from the two dance halls within the town, thus leaving only three dispensers in operation in cafes. Regular sampling was carried out from these three dispensers and it is pleasing to record that for the first time since the dispensers were installed six years previously the incidence of sample failures was the lowest on record, being 20% of the number of samples taken, all the sample failures were due to the presence of coliform organisms.



## Pasteurisers

As a result of a chemical analysis failure in a sample of milk taken from the Dysart Creamery which showed the presence of 3.34% of added water, a defect was found in the rubber gaskets on the Pasteuriser plates and these were renewed. Other improvements carried out at the Dysart Creamery were the renewal of a sub-press on the capping machine and the installation of a new compressor to act as a booster for the cold storage. The Viewforth Street Creamery functioned satisfactorily throughout the year. The daily output from the two pasteurising plants were 2,950 gallons. Of this total 2,650 gallons were consigned to local Co-operative Society shops and vans, whilst the remaining 300 gallons were consigned to local schools and canteens. During the year the Dysart Creamery's daily output was reduced by 600 gallons, this amount of milk being transferred to Buckhaven Creamery.

## 4. Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956

A total of 294 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst in Dundee for examination. This total consisted of 81 formal samples of which one was reported as not genuine, and 213 informal samples, 17 of which were found to be not genuine. Observations of the Public Analyst are included on these samples which received adverse reports.

	<i>Number examined</i>				<i>Not genuine</i>
Baking Powder .. .. .	1				
Beer .. .. .	6				
Brandy .. .. .	2				
Bread .. .. .	1				
Butter .. .. .	5				
Buttermilk .. .. .	1				
Coffee .. .. .	2				
Cooking Fat .. .. .	7				
Cream .. .. .	1				
Fish Cakes .. .. .	5				
Flour .. .. .	1				
Fruit and Dried Fruit .. .. .	9				
Fruit Juice .. .. .	1				
Gin .. .. .	2				
Ice Cream .. .. .	22				
Ice Lollies .. .. .	4				
Jam and Jellies .. .. .	3				
Margarine .. .. .	5				
Meat Paste .. .. .	5				
Meat Products .. .. .	11				6
Medicinals .. .. .	10				
Milk .. .. .	70				9
Mince .. .. .	34				
Mineral Waters .. .. .	12				
Puddings .. .. .	2				
Rum .. .. .	9				

Sauces and Pickles	..	..	6	
Sausages	..	..	17	
Sherry	..	..	1	
Soup	..	..	5	
Spices and Condiments	..	..	3	
Spreads and Curds	..	..	2	1
Vegetables	..	..	3	
Vodka	..	..	1	
Whisky	..	..	22	1
Wine	..	..	1	
Yoghurt	..	..	1	1
			<u>294</u>	<u>18</u>

## MILK

The average quality of the milk supply as indicated by the 70 samples analysed was as follows:

Water	..	..	87.60%
Total Solids	..	..	12.40%
Fat	..	..	3.74%
Solids-not-fat	..	..	8.66%
			<u>100.00%</u>

The figures show that there was a decrease of .58% in the average fat content of the milk supply and a decrease of .65% of the total solids content from that of the previous year.

Of the 70 samples taken 9 informal samples did not conform to the Board of Agriculture (Sale of Milk) Regulations, 1901.

The Analyst's certificates and subsequent correspondence proved that these 9 samples which did not conform were not deliberate attempts to adulterate the milk. They were, in fact, the results of defective equipment in one case, where a leak had developed in the cooling system allowing water to enter the milk flow system and in other cases a combination of lack of experience in the use of new equipment and human error resulted in non-genuine samples.

## ICE CREAM

A summary of the results of analysis is given in the following table:

			<i>Fat%</i>	<i>Milk Solids-not-fat%</i>
Average	..	..	7.40	10.39
Maximum	..	..	11.30	14.00
Minimum	..	..	5.30	7.75

There were 22 informal ice cream samples taken. These samples all proved to be genuine.

### **Meat Pies and Sausage Rolls**

Regulations governing the meat content of these products were drawn up in 1967 and came into force on 31st May, 1968. Prior to this date 11 test samples were taken, 6 of which would not have complied had these Regulations been in force. The producers concerned were informed of the new standards so that they might increase the meat content of their products.

### **Whisky**

One formal sample of whisky was reported as contravening the Food and Drugs (Scotland) Act, 1956. It was discovered that the bottle from which the sample was taken had remained opened and on display for sale for a much longer period of time than usual. This resulted in an analytical result of 0.8° Proof lower than the strength declared on the label of the bottle.

### **Yoghurt**

One sample of this product was taken and found to be deficient in fat content to the extent of 36.66%. As the product was manufactured from skimmed milk this constituted a labelling offence. At present this department is having correspondence with the firm concerned. It is likely that because this particular type of yoghurt represents a very small percentage of the total yoghurt sales, it will be withdrawn.

### **Lemon Curd**

A sample of lemon curd was found to contravene the labelling of food order. This product now complies with the appropriate Order.

### **General Remarks**

The other 276 samples not specifically mentioned were of good quality and conformed to the various regulations governing their sale. The adulteration rate of 6.12% for 1968 was higher than the rate for 1967. This higher percentage can be accounted for in the fact that 6 similar samples were taken prior to new regulations governing the particular product. The samples were taken in order to prove to the manufacturers that their product would not comply with the coming regulations.

The Imported Food (Scotland) Regulations, 1968, came into operation on 1st August and consolidate and bring up to date the measures for the protection of public health in relation to imported food. With the increased use of container transport it is likely that more authorities will be involved in the administration of these regulations in addition to the normal port authorities.

The Meat Pie and Sausage Roll (Scotland) Regulations, 1967, which came into operation on 31st May lay down standards for the fillings or meat content of these products. As already indicated from samples taken prior to the regulations coming into force some manufacturers will require to increase the meat content of their shell pies and sausage rolls in order to comply with the regulations.

## **5. Food Premises and Food Hygiene**

A total of 528 inspections were made to food premises, including 72 inspections of mobile shops and delivery vehicles. This is considerably less than the total for 1967 due principally to staff shortage during the year and the heavy workload placed on the department by the survey of sub-standard houses in the Burgh. It is however hoped that greater emphasis may be made on this facet of the work during the coming year. Nevertheless numerous verbal recommendations were given by inspectors to staff and management and several written intimations were sent in terms of the Food Hygiene (Scotland) Regulations, 1959-67 relating to items requiring attention. Generally good standards of hygiene and cleanliness prevailed although in several cases the standard fell below a satisfactory level, thus involving regular visits to the premises concerned to ensure that the necessary structural works and improved practices required were satisfactorily effected. Ready co-operation was achieved in all but a few cases in which the proprietors' legal responsibilities had to be clearly defined to them before the necessary remedial measures were carried out, fortunately without recourse to the Courts.

Fifty-six food complaints were received during the year, the majority of which were readily solved and brought to a satisfactory conclusion. There were several instances of foreign material being found in returnable containers such as lemonade and milk bottles due to their misuse by the public and lack of continuous vigilance at bottling plants. Sighting equipment and procedure has been considerably improved at two bottling plants in the Burgh which had been sources of these problems.

One complaint related to a triangular piece of metal, like a cutting blade being found in a loaf of bread. Investigation revealed that the firm concerned had recently installed a new flour storage and ducting system and despite stringent precautions including filtration and passing 10 tons of flour through the system to cleanse the ducts this piece of metal must have lodged in the ducts and been subsequently dislodged after the cleaning process.

It is proposed to hold a course in Food Hygiene at Kirkcaldy Technical College for food operatives. Members of the staff will co-operate by delivering lectures on various aspects of food hygiene and it is hoped that this course will form a serious contribution towards the raising of standards, by widening the appreciation of food hygiene by persons employed in the food industry.



During the period the Links Market was in progress a total of 288 visits were made to 56 stalls including 7 ice cream vans.

Generally the standard of hygiene was satisfactory, although on several occasions stall assistants were cautioned for smoking. The level of hygiene in one stall was well below the required standard and it is recommended that a stance be refused to this person in 1969.

In June following the report of an outbreak of food poisoning in the Newcastle area due to eating mussels affected with a condition known as 'Red Tide' a form of plankton growth, mussels being sold locally and gathered in the Forth estuary were submitted for examination but no harmful organisms were found. At this time a local pigeon fancier had several deaths amongst his birds and examination of the 'crops' revealed several small mussels due to their feeding on the fore-shore. The contents of the 'crops' were submitted for examination but only E. Coli organisms were found.

### 6. Unsound Food

Weekly visits continued to be made to wholesale grocery warehouses throughout the town, apart from random inspections for the purpose of detecting and condemning unsound food. Some 382 inspections were made resulting in the undernoted foodstuffs being voluntarily surrendered for destruction, mainly by burial at the refuse tip.

				<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
Canned Fruit	..	..	..	3,924	15 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fresh Vegetables	..	..	..	89	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Vegetables	..	..	..	2,725	12 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Fish	..	..	..	73	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Fresh Meat	..	..	..	459	13
Canned Meat	..	..	..	5360	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Canned Meat & Vegetables	..	..	..	85	5
Canned Milk and Cream	..	..	..	219	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Canned Soup	..	..	..	2172	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
Jam	..	..	..	203	4 $\frac{1}{4}$
Canned Pudding	..	..	..	531	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	614	15 $\frac{3}{4}$
				<hr/> 16,460 <hr/>	<hr/> 6 $\frac{1}{4}$ <hr/>

### 7. Meat Inspection

Early in the year continuing precautions had to be taken under the Diseases of Animals Act because of the Foot and Mouth outbreak in England, this entailed strict precautions in the disposal of slaughterhouse waste and condemned meat.

Discussions continued during the year between representatives of the Council and the Fat Stock Marketing Corporation regarding proposals for slaughterhouse modernisation.

After discussion with the F.M.C. all meat being exported to England now bears a meat inspection stamp on the carcasses.

## MEAT INSPECTION

**Meat found to be unfit for human consumption during the year  
ended 31st December 1968**

DISEASES	Cattle excluding Calves	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	TOTALS
1. Tuberculosis					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	—	—	—	1	1
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit .. ..	—	—	—	184	184
(c) Organs only unfit .. ..	5	—	—	74	79
2. Cysticercosis					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses affected but passed after treatment by refrigera- tion .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
3. Actinobacillosis and Actinomycosis					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Organs only unfit .. ..	33	—	—	—	33
4. Trichinosis					
Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
5. Septicaemia (fevered carcasses)					
Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	1	2	—	3	6
6. Bruising and Injury					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	2	—	8	—	10
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit .. ..	13	—	13	10	36
7. All other conditions:					
(a) Whole carcasses unfit .. ..	9	6	56	12	83
(b) Carcasses of which some part was unfit .. ..	19	1	48	60	128
(c) Organs only unfit .. ..	2,541	8	1,444	289	4,282
8. Total items 1 to 7 above, excluding the figures at 2(b) of item 2 .. ..	2,623	17	1,569	633	4,842
9. Total number of animals inspected during the year at the slaughterhouse ..	9,109	501	23,205	6,403	39,218

Weight of carcass meat condemned	14,229 lbs.
Weight of organs condemned	46,710 lbs.
Weight of poultry condemned	126 lbs.
Weight of imported meat condemned	273 lbs.

## 8. Ice Cream Premises

In terms of the Ice Cream (Scotland) Regulations, 1948, the following premises and vehicles were registered by the Town Council at 31st December, 1968.

Premises (Manufacture, Storage and/or Sale) .. ..	5
Premises (Manufacture, Storage) .. ..	1
Premises (Manufacture) .. ..	Nil
Premises (Storage only) .. ..	Nil
Premises (Storage and sale) .. ..	4
Vehicles (Sale only) .. ..	25
Vehicles (Manufacture, Storage and Sale) .. ..	Nil

In addition to the above, pre-wrapped ice cream was sold from 110 other premises which is an increase of 3 from the previous year.

These figures show a decrease of 2 in premises registered for manufacture, storage and/or sale, a decrease of 1 in premises registered for manufacture and storage only, a decrease of 1 in premises registered for manufacture only, a decrease of 3 in premises registered for storage and sale, a decrease of 2 in vehicles registered for sale only and a decrease of 7 vehicles registered for manufacture, storage and sale.

The total number of visits paid to the various manufacturing and retail premises in 1968 was 41 mainly for the purpose of routine inspection of plant and premises. Once again it was found that although the general standard of hygiene was good in most premises, a few premises were below a reasonable standard. Sterilisation of plant and equipment was not properly understood by some of the ice cream handlers and efforts were made to educate these people in the importance of sterilisation.

Two samples taken from a manufacturing premises proved to be unsatisfactory but a further sample gave a satisfactory result.

A series of unsatisfactory samples were obtained from another retail premises but after extensive investigations a series of satisfactory results were obtained. Unfortunately an unsatisfactory sample was obtained from these premises towards the end of the year and investigations continued into 1969.

One retail trading van from outwith the burgh also produced an unsatisfactory result. The Sanitary Inspector for that area was notified and investigations were carried out by him.

During the year 38 samples of ice cream and milk ice were taken for bacteriological examination; this was a decrease of six from the previous year. Of this number 9 samples failed to comply with the standards laid down by the Central Department. This is a decrease of 1 from the previous year.

Ice Cream vehicles continued to be inspected regularly and were generally found to be satisfactory. A storage depot serving retail vans which had reopened after a lapse of 1 year closed down again after only a short time.

The following table gives detailed results of samples taken:—

Bacterial Range	No.	No. with Coliform Bacilli
0 — 500	16	1
501 — 1,000	2	—
1,001 — 5,000	5	—
5,001 — 10,000	2	2
10,001 — 15,000	1	1
15,001 — 25,000	5	3
25,001 — 50,000	4	1
50,001 — and over	1	—
Uncountable	2	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>9</b>

Twenty-two samples of ice cream were submitted for analysis in terms of the Food Standards (Ice Cream) (Scotland) Regulations, 1959. A summary of results of analysis of these samples is given under Section 4 of this report.

## 9. Shops Act

Fewer enquiries were made throughout the year by shop assistants regarding the permitted hours of work. It seems that this problem is diminishing because of the shortage of labour available and general working conditions as laid down by shop trade unions. Routine shops inspection was carried out on a lesser scale because of the staff shortage and commitment to other fields of work. However, a total of some 244 visits were made to premises during the year. Throughout the year 1968 some 38 plans with proposals for premises affected by the Shops Act were submitted to the Dean of Guild Court, on which our recommendations and observations were duly recorded. Plans were also approved for eight new shop premises.

Most of the shops continue to take Wednesday as their half day, and this year with Christmas and New Year falling on a Wednesday in order to avoid any restriction in trading the Council made an Order under Section 40(1) of the Shops Act, 1950, suspending the obligation to close on the weekly half holiday at that time. In addition the usual order was made suspending the general closing hours for a period of seven days over the Christmas period.

## 10. Places of Public Refreshment

At the end of 1968 there were 28 premises listed in the register for places of public refreshment. During the course of the year one premise closed down and one opened. Fifty-five inspections were made in terms of local bye-laws.



A good standard of cleanliness and hygiene was maintained generally in all premises, and any contraventions of existing regulations were brought to the attention of the appropriate persons.

There were submitted during the year 1 plan concerning a new cafe, 2 concerning alterations to cafes, 3 concerning hotels and public houses, and one concerning workmen's mess rooms.

One public house in the Dysart area closed down partly due to the run down in trade in the area and partly because of the expense in renovating the premises to bring them up to modern requirements.

Considerable pressure had to be brought to bear on another publican with unsatisfactory premises, to press on with his plans for extension and improvement which had been lodged in 1962. By the end of the year this work was virtually completed.

## GENERAL SITUATION

### 11. Nuisances and Sanitary Defects

During the year 348 complaints were received from members of the public and a further 21 nuisances or sanitary defects were discovered during routine inspections. Some of the alleged nuisances were of a minor nature which warranted only the initial inspection, in some cases a verbal warning or advice was sufficient to have the defect remedied.

There were 131 intimations or notices served in terms of the Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1897, and the Burgh Police (Scotland) Act, 1892, and a total of 1,755 inspections and revisits were made in securing the abatement of nuisances.

The following table shows the number and type of nuisances dealt with during the year:—

1.	Dirty houses and premises cleaned	..	..	19
2.	Dirty W.C. apartments cleaned	..	..	23
3.	Dirty stairs and passages cleaned	..	..	11
4.	Dirty Areas and Courts cleaned	..	..	24
5.	Dampness in houses abated or improved	..	..	113
6.	Defective sinks, tubs, wash hand basins and baths	..	..	6
7.	Defective W.C.'s repaired or renewed	..	..	25
8.	Defective W.C. apartments repaired	..	..	10
9.	Defective rhones, wastepipes, etc., repaired	..	..	19
10.	Defective roofs repaired or renewed	..	..	22
11.	Choked drains and traps cleared	..	..	133
12.	Defective floors repaired or renewed	..	..	2
13.	General Housing defects remedied	..	..	62
14.	Accumulation of rubbish removed	..	..	53
15.	Nuisances caused by hens, cats, dogs	..	..	6
16.	Nuisances caused by stray pigeons	..	..	16
17.	Verminous houses sprayed and fumigated	..	..	—
18.	Other insects pest treated	..	..	37
19.	Miscellaneous Nuisances	..	..	45
				626

Only two noise nuisances of any consequence were reported during the year. One related to the noise from dance bands and beat groups in a recently extended youth centre. The noise was worst when the small upper hall was used and especially when the better known groups were playing—probably because they used louder amplifying equipment. After several visits had been paid to the premises and some co-operation regarding the volume of the amplifiers in use, the noise was reduced to an acceptable level.

The other noise nuisance was an industrial one associated with the introduction of a much larger cyclone dust extraction plant in a furniture factory. Coupled with this was a sawdust nuisance from the same plant. These complaints were partially accentuated by the storm damage to the plant, but finally the cyclones were totally roofed over and some reduction in noise was achieved. Another problem was the night shift working when the cyclone noise was obviously more noticeable. The firm concerned went a long way to combat the nuisance but with houses in close proximity it is difficult to reduce noise to a level suitable to all concerned. Negotiations are going on for this firm to move to a larger industrial site due to their difficulty in expanding production on their present site.

Another nuisance which has gone on for some time is the problem of dust and smoke from an industrial refuse tip in close proximity to housing. After several meetings with the firm's representatives they are now operating the tip in accordance with certain recommendations put to them, and a considerable improvement has been achieved.

Several families of 'travelling people' moved in to housing in the Overton Road area and their anti-social living caused numerous complaints from other families in the property. Threats of prosecution have little effect on such persons, and in the interest of hygiene, refuse accumulations were removed periodically by the cleansing department, and the essential sanitary fittings were maintained at the expense of the local authority.

There are still large flocks of feral pigeons in the town roosting mainly in the large empty industrial buildings formerly occupied by linoleum works. It is difficult to trap birds in these situations and even shooting is a problem. However 66 pigeons were accounted for during the year.

No serious nuisance arose from the small number of piggery and stable premises in the burgh, a fire occurred at one piggery and several of the old unsatisfactory wood buildings were destroyed. During the year 10 inspections to these premises were carried out.

The five day fair known as the Links Market again meant at least one inspector on virtually full time duty to prevent nuisance arising and cope with the inspection of food vending stalls. Liaison between the cleansing and sanitary departments and the market superintendent was maintained throughout the period of the market, to the advantage of all concerned.

## 12. Rats and Mice

The result of our activities for the control of rats and mice is as follows:—

1. Number of properties inspected	..	..	438
2. Number found infested with rats or mice	..	..	108

3.	Number cleared of rats or mice .. .. .	84
4.	Number of manholes baited .. .. .	—
5.	Total estimated kill of rats .. .. .	461
6.	Total estimated kill of mice .. .. .	300
7.	Income from services at private properties ..	£25 . 0 . 0d.

The rats which had taken up residence in the hedgerows alongside the Thornton Road in the late autumn of 1967 were finally cleared early in the year.

Rats got in to the waste paper store at the Cleansing Depot and because of the large volume of paper being handled it was several weeks before this problem was brought under control. Permanent baiting points were set up and when the waste paper stocks were finally cleared several dead rats were found.

Complaints were received regarding rats in empty linoleum factories, in some condemned houses and on an industrial refuse tip and all were successfully dealt with.

Towards the end of the year the Department of Agriculture arranged a visit from Dr. Telle, Director of Hygienic Pest Control, Lower Saxony - the modern pied piper of Hamelin - and I was able to show him some of the problems typical of a large burgh in Scotland and discuss with him the measures he used to achieve a rat free town.

### 13. Infectious Diseases

Work connected with infectious diseases called for investigations into 639 cases comprising:—

Dysentrey 280;	Scarlet Fever 60;	Jaundice 7;
Enteritis 148;	Food Poisoning 22;	Hepatitis 82;
Salmonella 12;	Diarrhoea 27;	Erysipelas 5;

Sewer swabs were taken near a food manufacturing premises suspected of being a source of salmonella typhi murium, but in all cases the swabs were negative.

Reports on all cases were sent to the Medical Officer and intimations of infectious disease were notified to schools in 164 instances.

### 14. Water Supply

The burgh's water undertaking was taken over by the Fife and Kinross Water Board on May 15th.

As a routine measure the undernoted samples were taken to ascertain that the purity and quality of the supply was maintained at a high level.



<i>Types of Sample</i>	<i>No. Taken</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Unsatisfactory</i>
Chemical .. ..	3	3	—
Bacteriological ..	11	10	1
Lead Content ..	17	17	—

The water supply to two old cottages on the outskirts of the burgh each of which had its own well water supply was sampled and found to be unsatisfactory, in both cases the lead content was extremely high. In view of the condition of the properties and these unsatisfactory results both houses were condemned and the occupants rehoused.

The well water supply to the cottages at Balbarton Refuse Tip was sampled and found to be satisfactory.

## **15. Factories**

There are 329 premises on the register, and only 39 inspections were made throughout the year. Again because of staff shortage and concentration by those remaining on a housing survey. In two cases unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation was found and when the attention of the management concerned was directed to these infringements they were satisfactorily remedied in due course. No infringements were referred to the department by H.M. Inspector of Factories. No outworkers were notified in part 7 of the Factories Act, 1961.

In June the first development of the large new factory for the Rank Organisation was opened at Mitchelston Industrial Estate.

## **16. Lodging Houses**

No premises in the town are now used as a common lodging house, however, there is one house providing accommodation for transport drivers which receives regular supervision.

Proposals are also afoot to provide bed and breakfast accommodation for drivers above a transport cafe. The condition of this building leaves much to be desired, and considerable structural improvements and repairs will be required before this accommodation will be acceptable.

## **17. Smoke, Grit and Fumes**

**Clean Air Act, 1956 Section 1** Throughout the year 12 observations were made on chimneys serving boiler units of factory and large commercial premises for the purpose of ascertaining compliance or otherwise with the requirements of this Section which makes it an offence to emit dark smoke from a chimney in excess of the specified permitted periods, in addition 11 visits were made to boiler plants for similar reasons.

With regard to those observations which revealed smoke emission lasting beyond the stipulated time limits, 4 verbal warnings were given.

**Section 3** Nine notices of proposals to install new furnaces were given to the local authority in terms of sub-section 3 of this section. In all cases where plans were submitted to the Dean of Guild Court in respect of chimney heights (Section 10(1)) our recommendations were accepted. Some 43 visits were made to boiler plants both during and on completion of the installations.

The following summary which lists details of new furnace and boiler installations to which Section 3 of the Act applies also lists adaptations and improvements to existing units; new installations, oil fired 5, new installations gas fired 2; new installations coal fired with underfeed stokers 2; conversions from coal to oil 2.

Poor quality fuel was found to be responsible for the excessive emission of smoke from a large spinning mill, a slaughterhouse and a large bakery, these matters were taken up with the National Coal Board and were satisfactorily resolved.

Complaints regarding excessive smoke from burning scrap motor cars, rubber tyres and waste material at factories and scrap metal yards were investigated and as a result of four verbal warnings to the offending parties, these practices were discontinued and the nuisance abated.

Towards the end of the year the 150ft. chimney of Barry's Power station along with the rest of the building was demolished, thus one more industrial chimney landmark disappeared.

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION INVESTIGATIONS

The following summary of analysis is based on information kindly supplied by Mr. Ronald S. Nicolson, F.R.I.C., Public Analyst for the burgh from samples collected in the Deposit Gauges and on Lead Peroxide Candles throughout 1968.

### Deposit Gauge Samples

<i>Site</i>	<i>Average monthly rainfall in inches</i>				<i>Average monthly deposit of solid matter in tons per sq. mile</i>			
1. Loughborough 1968 Road	1967 †2.31	1966 2.05	1965 2.69	1968 2.61	1967 9.97	1966 11.49	1965 10.99	1968 11.76
2. Denburn Yard	†2.49	1.76	2.66	2.60	11.12	10.48	11.69	12.36

† Excludes November and December

‡ Excludes October, November and December.

As from the beginning of the year the average calculated deposition was made on a daily basis instead of a monthly basis as in former years.

### Lead Peroxide Candles

Site		Average Sulphur Pollution in mgm SO <sub>3</sub> /100 sq.cm/day						
		1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962
No. 1	..	0.58	0.68	0.68	0.72	0.72	0.77	0.80
No. 2	..	0.46	0.49	0.46	0.49	0.52	0.55	0.95
No. 3	..	0.32	0.38	0.31	0.31	0.37	0.39	0.41
No. 4	..	0.52	0.53	0.58	0.61	0.51	0.57	0.63
Average	..	0.45	0.52	0.51	0.53	0.53	0.57	0.70

From the above figures it can be seen that the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere as measured by these Lead Peroxide Candles has again followed the continuous downwards trend of past years. Since the inception of the scheme 10 years ago the figures have shown a decrease in the amount of sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere each succeeding year, which must be considered highly satisfactory.

### 18. Burial Grounds

There are three local authority burial grounds in use all maintained in good condition by the Parks Department. This department is also responsible for maintaining two church burial grounds in one of which burials still take place. In the Kirkcaldy Old Parish Churchyard it would appear that only one person still has right of burial here.

Cremations at the Corporation Crematorium, Dunnikier, totalled 1,496 during the year.

### 19. Rivers Pollution

During the holiday period Dysart Sailing Club had a clear water channel formed at Dysart harbour, the heavy deposits of silt and colliery waste being removed by N.C.B. equipment and dumped above high water mark at the Ashlar and alongside the harbour wall.

In the autumn a lot of flotsam and drift wood was deposited on Pathhead foreshore. In addition to large 9" diameter baulks there were a lot of battens and new wood off cuts which appeared to be coming from construction work up river. The matter was referred to the Rivers Board Inspector.

At Dysart during the November high tides the waves were breaking over the newly placed gabions, forming a breakwater along the base of the new spoil bing. It is my view that once the old bing is removed there is a possibility of encroachment and erosion taking place at the colliery end of the new spoil bank.

### 20. Schools, Cinemas, Public Buildings and Dance Halls

Twenty-three visits were made to schools during the year. Particular attention was given to the condition of school toilets and school meals kitchens and dining centres because of the continuing incidence throughout the year of dysentery type infection especially amongst school children.



Five bacteriological samples of school swimming pool water were taken, two of which were unsatisfactory. In one case the chlorinating plant was broken down and the pool in fact was not in use. In the other case a follow-up sample a few days later was satisfactory. One sample was taken for a full chemical analysis, the result indicated that the water was suitable for bathing purposes.

Thirty-nine visits were made to cinemas, halls and public buildings mainly prior to the granting of annual licences. The fact that these premises are licensed annually means that a relatively good standard is maintained and few defects are found during inspections.

## **21. Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act**

The number of inspections throughout 1968 totalled 318. This decrease is accounted for by staff shortage although during the year a technical assistant was employed with the view that he would carry out all visits required under this Act. However, because of the severe storm in January, 1968, much of this assistant's time was spent on storm damage visitation. Throughout the year some 23 letters were sent drawing the attention of the proprietors to the requirements of the Act. This was in addition to verbal advice given on frequent occasions. Twenty-three new registrations were recorded during the year and 32 cancellations, leaving the present total of registered premises in the Burgh at 631. In 1968, 46 plans showing alterations or new premises were examined by the department.

Cleanliness was generally satisfactory, with overcrowding negligible. There were again some instances of underheated premises found but most of these discovered were satisfactorily improved within the year. Artificial means of ventilation was provided in some premises as the result of departmental recommendations. The standard of lighting was generally satisfactory. Sanitary accommodation and washing facilities were, in the main, found to be satisfactory. The most common complaint regarding toilet accommodation is the misuse of the toilet which quite often forms additional storage for the premises. Drinking water supplies were satisfactory as was also accommodation for clothing. Adequate seating was usually provided.

An increasing number of premises were found to be providing staff accommodation in which tea breaks and meal breaks could be taken. There were a few premises found with defective floor coverings or worn flooring, but no serious complaints arose.

Only 11 accidents were reported during the year, all of a minor nature and none involving the use of dangerous machinery.

## **22. Cleansing**

**REFUSE COLLECTION.** Quarterly test weighings of domestic refuse from burgh households showed a slight increase over the previous year, only the December weighing being lower than 1967. I am wondering if the position has now been reached, as was suggested in my report last



year, that in addition to increasing volume, there will be a tendency for the weight of refuse to gradually increase. It may be that over the next few years the weight will fluctuate from one year to the next, but there is no doubt, if one adds to the normal domestic refuse collection, the increasing weight of bulky household refuse now being collected, that weight is on the increase.

<i>Quarterly Weighings</i>					<i>Tonnage</i>		
<i>One Week's Weighings</i>					1968	1967	1966
March	..	..	..	..	259	255	251
June	..	..	..	..	228	217	233
September	..	..	..	..	222	222	223
December	..	..	..	..	233	237	244

One rear barrier loading vehicle of 4½ ton capacity went in to service for trade refuse collection, and an 18/25 cubic yard rear loading refuse collector with compression plate went on to domestic refuse collection. This latter vehicle is producing some good pay loads and the number of trips to the refuse tip has been reduced with consequent increased time available for loading.

Four hundred and nineteen 'Falkirk' type refuse bins were sold during the year, but at this rate of progress it is going to be many years before every household has a satisfactory bin. The Ministry of Housing and Local Government Working Party Report on Refuse Collection recommends that "Local authorities should as soon as possible undertake the provision of receptacles for refuse storage at all residential premises from which they collect. The cost should be charged on the rates". There is no doubt that this is the only way to achieve completely hygienic refuse storage in as short a time as possible.

To relieve congestion on the High Street trade refuse from premises with access to Hill Street is now collected from this street following its widening and realignment. Some trade premises still fail to observe good storekeeping practice and instead of keeping salvageable paper and cartons bundled or bagged and separate from dirty refuse, the whole lot is dumped out at the kerbside or in the service area in a most untidy manner, and this causes delay in the uplifting of this refuse.

**REFUSE DISPOSAL** It was estimated that about 14,500 tons of domestic and shop refuse was collected and deposited at Balbarton Tip in 1968 while a further 7,500 tons reached the tip as builders' rubbish, soil, trade refuse, street sweeping and gully tank deposits. Builders' rubble is only accepted if it is free from wood and suitable for road making, soil is always accepted as long as there is a shortage of covering material for the tip faces.

During the month of August a serious fire broke out at the tip and continued to smoulder on for several weeks until it was finally brought under control. The fire broke out at the weekend and was

probably started by some unauthorised person raking about the tip looking for salvageable material. Because of the shortage of covering material and the fact that the bulldozer was in the workshops awaiting a new engine, it took much longer than normal to bring the fire under control.

Further meetings have been held and there has been correspondence throughout the year with the Raith Estate Factor regarding the proposed extension to Balbarton Tip and it is hoped that an early agreement will be reached.

Control of the tip has not been as satisfactory as it should have been because of a series of breakdowns to the bulldozer, and consideration will need to be given to replacing this machine at an early date, particularly if the tip extension is approved.

Salvage sales for 1968 were as follows:—

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>cwts.</i>
Wastepaper .. .. .	1,270	18
Baled Tins and Scrap .. .. .	49	10 $\frac{1}{4}$
Textiles and Rags .. .. .	58	10
Miscellaneous .. .. .	—	5 $\frac{1}{4}$
<b>TOTAL ..</b>	<b>1,379</b>	<b>31<math>\frac{1}{2}</math></b>

**STREET CLEANSING.** SNOW did not present a problem this year, the heaviest fall of the winter actually occurred on the local Spring Holiday in April but thaw conditions the next day quickly had the snow melting. As usual February and March proved to be the busiest months for footpath gritting and salting because of icy conditions. The introduction of British Standard Time brought with it problems of men working on the streets in the morning in the extended hours of darkness and with traffic flow building up from about 8.00 a.m. there is a potential danger. All street sweepers were issued with fluorescent waistcoats to attempt to make them more visible to traffic during the winter months.

The heavy gale in January meant additional work for about a week clearing up debris on the streets which had come from damaged buildings.

**PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.** There are 29 buildings in the burgh housing 25 gents and 20 ladies toilets also 1 mobile toilet on a semi-permanent site for use by ladies and another mobile toilet for use at the Links Market, and throughout the summer for use at large gatherings in the Parks or elsewhere. Some of the older buildings are now needing to be replaced and the health committee have decided on a building programme for new conveniences at Hill Street, Sinclairtown, Gallowtown, Town Head Dysart, and the Central Redevelopment area. A private architect submitted draft plans of two different sizes of toilet blocks which would be suitable for this programme and he is now working on the detailed plans for these projects.

**ADMINISTRATION.** During the year the new Works Department came in to being and the day to day control of the cleansing functions is now the responsibility of the Works Manager. This new set up will obviously have initial problems which will not be lessened by the fact that the two cleansing foremen, both of whom had many years service, retired in the latter part of the year, while the assistant cleansing inspector is also due to retire early in the New Year.

Out of a strength of 126 cleansing department employees a total of 10,200 hours were lost by cleansing employees throughout the year through sickness, absenteeism, etc., which is an average of 196.2 hours weekly.

For the year ending 15th May, 1968, the cost of collection and disposal of refuse, street cleansing and cleaning and maintenance of public conveniences amounted to £118,589 after making an allowance for an income of £13,068 of which £9,722 came from salvage sales – mainly waste paper.

### **23. Civic Amenities Act**

Part III of this Act dealing with facilities for the disposal of bulky refuse, and the disposal of abandoned vehicles came fully into effect at the end of July. The local authority advertised that facilities for the reception of bulky refuse from the public would be available during normal working hours on week-days and for a period of three hours on a Saturday morning at the Cleansing Depot, Denburn Yard.

The public do seem to make good of this service and also unofficially a fair amount of bulky refuse is taken by members of the public who have transport to Balbarton Tip, especially at the weekends.

There is also an increasing number of requests to have bulky refuse lifted from houses by special collection, a small charge being made to defray the costs of the service.

During the year 57 letters were sent out regarding apparently abandoned vehicles, lying on waste ground within the burgh. In most cases these vehicles were removed within seven days, in a few cases there was some difficulty in tracing ownership which meant the vehicles lay for a period up to about a month before removal by the owner. In no case did the local authority have to take steps to remove the vehicles themselves.

### **24. Sewers and Drains**

A chokeage at the storm overflow chamber in Hendry Road caused sewage to be discharge into the Middle Den burn in April, while in June sewage was found in the East Burn at the rear of the harbour. On tracing this back it was found to be due to a chokeage in the main sewer at the rear of Simpson Street. The obstruction was caused by a wood batten but how this got into the sewer was a mystery.



About 40 yards of 9" sewer in Hendry Road had to be relaid as a result of a partial obstruction by cement grout. A contractor had been pumping cement grout into ground nearby in order to stabilise it for a new building project and this had got into an old drainage system and thus into the sewer.

Progress has been made on clearing several gullies and drain pipes on the Esplanade which have become silted up over a period of years.

The Sewerage (Scotland) Act, 1968, came on the statute book on 26th July but so far no commencement date has been fixed. Among other things this Act appears to make local authorities responsible for the maintenance of all drains up to the building line, whereas formerly property owners were responsible for drains up to the sewer connection.

## **25. Caravan Sites**

The blocking of the entrances to Boreland Woods with 4 feet high steel posts placed approximately five feet apart has had the desired effect in preventing vehicles and caravans gaining access to the woods and consequently no itinerant persons have camped here during the year.

However, throughout the early summer months some trouble did arise due to caravans being pulled on to the site of demolished houses in the Sinclairtown Redevelopment Area. Most of these persons are scrap metal dealers and there are some good pickings to be had from the large number of empty condemned houses and factories in the immediate vicinity at the moment.

The new byelaws for Tents, Vans and Sheds came into operation on 6th August, 1968.

## **26. Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations**

Two firms are registered under this Act. No infringements were reported or discovered.

## **27. Pharmacy and Poisons Act and Orders**

Authorised sellers of Part II poisons again numbered 26 covering 41 premises. There were no inspections made throughout the year regarding the proper storage and labelling of containers.

## **28. Pet Animals Act**

Six applications were granted to keep a pet animal shop or deal in small livestock. The premises were all found to be clean and the animals, birds and fish kept under suitable conditions. No premises are licensed in terms of the Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963.

## **29. Riding Establishment Act**

There are no known riding establishments within the Burgh.

## **30. The Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act**

No statutory action was required in terms of this Act.



### **31. Fertilisers and Feeding Stuff Act**

Four samples of fertiliser and two samples of feeding stuffs were sent to the Agricultural Analyst for test analysis against the declared statutory statements. One product, meat and bone meal, when sampled as a feeding stuff did not conform to the guarantee, while the same product was also being sold as a fertiliser without any statutory statement. When this matter was drawn to the attention of the manufacturer it had the effect of hastening their decision to stop the manufacture of meat and bone meal and dried blood.

### **32. Trade Description Act, 1968**

This new Act is principally a matter of consumer protection to ensure as far as possible that people tell the truth about goods, prices and services and in the main will be enforced by weights and measures authorities.

It does however replace the Merchandise Marks laws which amongst other things deal with the marking of foodstuffs for which the sanitary department is responsible and agreement has been reached with the weights and measures inspector that the matters affecting foodstuffs will be dealt with by the sanitary department.

### **33. Historical**

In the course of researching amongst old editions of local newspapers for another purpose, one came across references from time to time of sanitary and public health matters. It is therefore interesting to record that one hundred years ago the Council debated the provisions of the new Public Health (Scotland) Act, 1867 which repealed the Nuisances Removal (Scotland) Act, 1856, this new Act imposed a duty on the local authority to appoint a Medical Officer and a Sanitary Inspector. Accordingly on 12th March, 1868 the Council appointed its first Sanitary Inspector, a Mr. Johnston, who was the existing Inspector of Nuisances. This duty he was to combine with that of Superintendent under the Burgh Trustees Act, the proportion of his salary for the duties of Sanitary Inspector amounting to £20 per annum.

One of his first duties was to inspect without delay the existing lodging houses with a view to licensing under the new Health Act and arising out of this survey it was proposed to convert the old Cholera Hospital into a Model Lodging House. Reference is made to two serious nuisances causing concern in Hill Place, one was a smoke nuisance and the other related to drainage from a property which was contaminating a well water supply which also had a privy situated only 6 feet away. This water supply was used for the manufacture of ginger beer which was sold throughout Fife.

A Dr. Dewar of Kirkcaldy appears to have been quite an authority on the preservation of food and had produced various preserved foods by the use of sulphurous acid and a drying process.

In the same year Mr. Arnot was appointed Inspector of Poor and Sanitary Inspector for the Parish of Dysart.

### **34. Staff**

During the year three new members joined the staff, Mr. W. Proudfoot being appointed Non Technical Assistant in July, Mr. A. Robertson, trainee sanitary inspector in September and Mr. A. R. MacPhee as assistant sanitary inspector in October. All the staff carried out their duties conscientiously and I thank them for their support, my thanks go also to Dunfermline Town Council who loaned us the services of Mr. Russell, who acted as meat inspector for a period of 4 months.

### **35. Acknowledgements**

I wish to record my appreciation for the assistance given me by the Convener and members of the Health Committee in the discharge of my duties and to thank my fellow officials and their staffs for their co-operation throughout the year.

# HOUSING — OLDER HOUSES SURVEY

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Address: ..... Flat: ..... Date: .....

Occupant: ..... Family: .....

Owner: ..... Tenant: ..... S/Let: ..... Rental: .....

No. of Rooms: ..... Kitchenette: .....

Amenities - W.C.: ..... W.H.B.: ..... Bath: .....

Sink: ..... Larder: .....

Hot Water Supply: ..... Heating: .....

To Sink: ..... W.H.B.: ..... Bath: .....

Outside W.C.: .....

Property 15 years' Life: .....

Suitability for Improvement: .....

Two Houses into One: .....

Zoning Suitable for Improvement: .....

Age Group of Property: .....

External Structure: .....

Internal Structure: .....

Tenant's reaction to improvement and rent increase: .....

Owner's reaction to improvement: .....

## TOLERABLE STANDARD

1. State of repair, stability and dampness.....

2. Light, ventilation, heating .....

3. Water supply .....

4. Situation sink ..... w.h.b.

bath.....

5. Situation etc. of W.C. ....

6. Drainage System .....

7. Food storage and preparation .....

8. Access and paving of back court .....

9. Refuse storage .....

10. Fuel storage .....

11. Washing facilities .....

House grading: .....

Improvement: .....

Standard amenities required: .....

Inspector: .....









